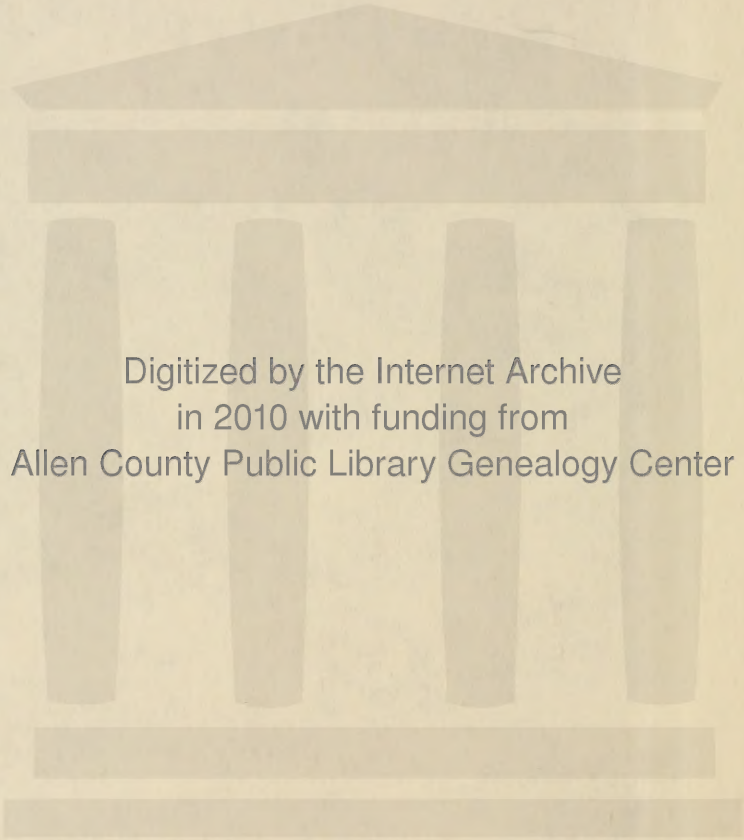

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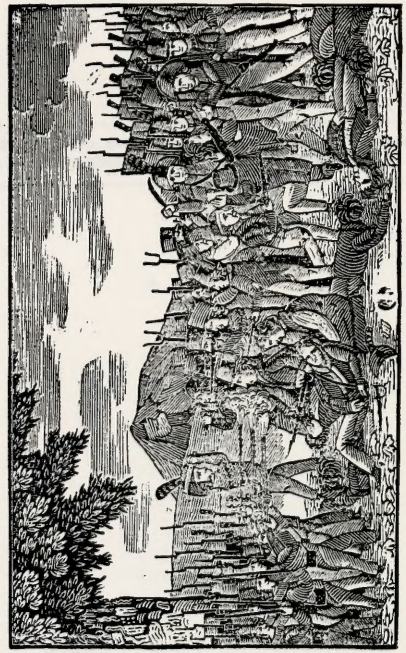
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An impartial narrative of the most important engagements ... in 1798



BATTLE OF VINEGAR-HILL. *Page 42.*

AN

IMPARTIAL NARRATIVE

OF THE

MOST IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS

WHICH

TOOK PLACE BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES

AND THE

INSURGENTS, DURING THE

IRISH REBELLION, IN 1798;

INCLUDING VERY

INTERESTING INFORMATION NOT BEFORE PUBLISHED.

CAREFULLY COLLECTED FROM AUTHENTIC LETTERS.

SECOND EDITION,

WITH ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

SOUTH NEWBERLIN, N. Y.
PUBLISHED BY LEVI HARRIS.

1834.

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TO THE YEOMEN OF IRELAND.

My Lords and Gentlemen:

The Loyalty, Courage, and Patriotism which proved the Salvation of Ireland, point you out as the proper Patrons of this little work. It is Dedicated to your Service, and will prove, I should hope, not undeserving of your protection. When Insurrection, with all its savage horrors, tarnished the Irish Nation, and spread Desolation through the land, you rallied round the sacred Banner of your King and Constitution, and preserved your Country, at once from Infamy and Destruction. The following Record of your glorious achievements is the effort of an humble Individual and zealous Friend to your Institution, anxious to perpetuate the memory of your virtue. Relying on the purity of his intention, but feeling his inadequacy to the execution of the Design, he throws himself upon your Indulgence, and subscribes himself with the utmost respect,

Your Faithful and

Obedient Servant,

J. JONES.

THE IRISH REBELLION IN 1798.

CLONARD is situated about twenty-five miles from Dublin, on the western road leading to Mullingar. Though constituted a post town, it is a very small village, consisting of an inn and a few thatched houses ; but from its situation, being on the confines of two counties, Kildare and Meath, and having a bridge across the river Boyne, which opens a communication from Dublin, to Westmeath, and from thence to Athlone and the province of Connaught, it must be considered as a very important pass in all times of commotion and war. On the Dublin side of the town is situated the mansion-house of the Tyrrell family, and at present belongs to *John Tyrrell Esq.* It is an old fashioned house, fronting the road, from which it is separated by a high wall and a court yard ; having an extensive garden upon its right, and a sheet of water upon the left. Mr. John Tyrrell, being a magistrate of both counties, Kildare and Meath, and having exerted himself early to suppress the disturbances which were occasioned by the defenders, naturally became an object of their resentment, and having been repeatedly menaced with an attack, he fortified his house by building up the original hall door, opening another, which might flank the lower windows, so as to render them musket proof.

Upon the institution of the yeomenry, Mr. John Tyrrell was honored with a commission to raise a corps of cavalry, which was immediately embodied, under the title of the *Clonard cavalry*, and Thomas Tyrrell, and Thomas Barlow, Esqrs.

were appointed Lieutenants. This corps soon distinguished itself by its unwearied exertions to preserve the peace of the neighborhood ; but in the course of the Spring of 1798, Mr. John Tyrrell, the Captain, receiving positive information of a conspiracy to take away his life, thought it prudent to retire with his family to England.

The command of the corps consequently devolved upon Mr. Thomas Tyrrell, the first Lieutenant, who had also at this critical period been appointed high-sheriff of the county of Kildare.—Upon the 10th of May, 1798, he received an official letter, ordering the Clonard cavalry upon permanent duty ; in this emergency, Mr. Thomas Tyrrell, finding his own house at Kilreiny, about one mile and a half from Clonard, inconvenient, and in truth, indefensible from its situation, removed his family to his kinsman's house at Clonard, before described, where he mounted a guard of one Sergeant and eighteen men, who were to be relieved every week.

Orders were about the same time issued to Captain O'Flerral, of the Ballina cavalry, to mount a permanent guard at Johnstown, near the Nineteen-mile-house, which were accordingly complied with : but upon the 16th of May, reports of a general rising having been circulated, and being corroborated by increasing outrages in the neighborhood, Captain O'Flerral was permitted to fall back from Johnstown to Clonard in the night time for protection ; repairing to Johnstown at four o'clock in the morning, and retiring in the evening.

In this way matters went on for some time, when the country becoming still more disturbed, and apprehensions of an attack upon Clonard becoming more serious, Lieutenant Thomas Tyrrell repaired to Dublin, with an escort of his corps, leaving the command at Clonard with Lieutenant Barlow. The object of this visit to Dublin, was to represent to Government the situation of that part of the country, the daily apprehensions of an attack, and the necessity of a reinforcement. Lord Castlereagh, to whom these representations were

made, answered " that under the existing circumstances no force could be sent to Clonard, but Mr. Thomas Tyrrell was authorized to raise some Supplementaries, for whom he would be supplied with arms and ammunition."

Pending this application in Dublin, viz. upon the 29th of May, the Insurgents assembled to the number of 800, in the village of Carbery, five miles from Clonard, where they burned the protestant Charter School and several houses ; they then proceeded through Johnstown, burning and destroying the house of every protestant near the road. Towards evening they halted at a place called Gurteen, where they destroyed the house of Mr. Francis Metcalf. When intelligence of these transactions reached Clonard, Lieutenant Barlow marched out with a party of the guard, and being joined by Captain O'Flerral they went in pursuit of the Insurgents, but did not overtake them, until they had halted at Gurteen, where they had taken a very advantageous position, upon each side of a narrow road, behind strong quickset hedges ; so that cavalry could not approach them with any prospect of success. Lieutenant Barlow halted his men, and then advancing some paces towards the enemy, took off his helmet, and challenged them to come forward. They, however, declined leaving their intrenchments, and night approaching, the yeomenry with great reluctance returned to their guard-house.

On the 30th of May, Lieutenant Thomas Tyrrell arrived safe from Dublin, with his escort, carabines for the troop, muskets for the supplementaries and a quantity of ammunition. The next day he enrolled nineteen well-affected protestants to act as supplementaries and dismounted.

By this time the Insurgents had collected a very considerable force, and every night committed some outrage and depredation. They encamped upon an island in the bog of Timahoe, and also at Mucklin and Dreihid ; they plundered almost every house in the neighborhood of their respective places, drove away all the fat cattle and horses they could meet, and intercepted the supplies for the Dublin market.

BATTLE OF TIMAHOE.

Government being apprized of these proceedings, dispatched General Champagne to Clonard, where he arrived upon the 6th of June; and after consulting with Lieutenant Tyrrell was escorted by him to Edenderry, where the General expected a detachment of the Limerick militia; but being disappointed in this respect, an express was sent to Philipstown to hasten the reinforcement, which arrived at Edenderry upon the evening of the 7th, and on the next day, General Champagne, having arranged his plan of operations, marched from Edenderry, with the following forces: a detachment of the Limerick militia, under Lieutenant Colonel Gough; the Coolestown yeomen cavalry, under Captain Wakely and Lieutenant Cartland; the Canal Legion, under Lieutenant Adam Williams; the Clonard cavalry, Lieutenant T. Tyrrell; and the Balina cavalry, Captain O'Flerral. These several corps were distributed, so as that the cavalry should surround the bog of Timahoe, while the infantry attacked the camp upon the island: this judicious plan was completely executed—the contest was obstinate for some time, owing to the small number of the infantry, who led on the attack; but their firmness and discipline supplying the want of numbers, the Limerick, headed by the gallant Col. Gough and ably supported by Lieutenant Williams, marched into the intrenchments, drove the Insurgents from their camp, who were attacked in their flight by the cavalry, and many of them put to death. The camp was entirely destroyed, and a great quantity of prisoners and considerable booty were carried off by the victims!

On the 29th of June, Lieutenant Tyrrell having received information that a large body of Insurgents had stationed themselves upon a hill near his dwelling-house at Kilreiny, and had committed various robberies in the course of the preceding night, he went to Kinnegad to solicit a reinforcement, and sent an express to Edenderry for a force to co-operate

with him. The Kinnegad yeomen cavalry, under Lieutenant Houghton, and a small party of the Northumberland fencibles immediately marched with Lieutenant Tyrrell to Clonard, and from thence being joined by his own corps, he proceeded to *Fox's Hill*, where the Insurgents were posted, to the amount of 600.—The attack was begun by the Clonard supplementaries who displayed great steadiness upon this occasion; the Kinnegad corps and the Northumberlands supported the attack with great zeal and the Edenderry force, consisting of a detachment of the Limerick, Lieutenant Colonel Gough, the Coolestown cavalry, Captain Wakely, and the Canal Legion, Lieutenant Williams, having fallen upon the insurgents from the opposite side, they were routed with considerable slaughter. Their commander, one *Casey*, his brother, and another leader, were killed in this action, and their bodies brought to Edenderry, where they were exposed for several days.

JUNCTION OF THE WEXFORD AND KILDARE INSURGENTS.

It might have been hoped that these successes would have established tranquility in this neighborhood, and probably such effects would have followed the military exertions, were it not for the irruption of a large column of Wexford Insurgents into Kildare, under the command of Colonel *Perry*, who being immediately joined by Colonel *Aylmer*, commanding the Insurgent camp at Prosperous, was prevailed upon to abandon his intention of penetrating into the North, and to adopt a plan suggested by *Aylmer*, of attacking Clonard, pushing on from thence by Kilbeggan to the Shannon and surprising Athlone. In pursuance of this plan, the Insurgent forces, amounting to 4000 men, made a movement towards Clonard.

BATTLE OF CLONARD.

Lieutenant Tyrrell was totally unapprized of the intention, or motions of the enemy :—his guard were extremely vigilant during each night, but not apprehending any danger in the day time, they frequently dispersed through the village for the purpose of recreation and refreshment. This happened to be the case with many of his men upon Wednesday morning the 11th of July, on which day about eleven o'clock, Mr. *Richard Allen* galloped into the court, and brought intelligence that he was pursued by a picket guard of the Insurgents, whom he narrowly escaped as they were well mounted ; and he was confident a considerable force was approaching. The alarm was instantly given, every exertion was made to collect the scattered men, and parties were stationed in the most advantageous positions. As the enemy were expected from the Dublin side, six of the corps (including Mr. Allen and Thomas Tyrrell, jun. the Lieutenant's son, and only fifteen years of age) took possession of and old turret at the extremity of the garden, and which commanded the road. Such was the rapidity with which the Insurgents advanced, that the firing actually commenced from this quarter upon their cavalry before the entire guard could be collected, and the gate leading into the court yard was under such necessity closed to the exclusion of several, so that when Lieutenant Tyrrell came to ascertain his strength, he found he had only *twenty-seven* men including his own three sons, the eldest of whom was only seventeen years old ; such a critical situation required the coolness of a man innured to military danger, and all the exertion, firmness, and skill of a veteran soldier. But although Lieutenant Tyrrell never had served in the army, his own good sense supplied the want of experience, and his native courage furnished resources adequate to the magnitude of the occasion. He found his men as zealous as himself, determined to maintain their post and discharge their

duty to their King and Country, or fall in such a glorious cause. After sending a supply of ammunition to the advanced post at the turret, and stationing other out-posts, he retired into the house with the main body, from which he selected the best marksmen, and placing them at particular windows gave directions that they should not fire without having their object covered, he had the rest of the men secured behind the walls, and incessantly employed in loading muskets and carabines for the marksmen at the windows.

The firing, as we observed, commenced from the turret at the extremity of the garden. About 300 of the Insurgent cavalry, led on by one *Farrell*, formed their advanced guard, and approached the turret in a smart trot, without appearing to apprehend any danger. The first shot was fired by young Mr. Tyrrell which mortally wounded Farrell, and being followed by a general discharge from the rest, among the body of the cavalry, threw them into great confusion, in which state they fled out of the reach of the firing. The infantry, however, coming up, many of them contrived to pass the turret under cover of the wall, and numbers were posted behind a thick hedge on the opposite side of the road, from which they kept up a smart fire against the turret, but without doing any material mischief.

The infantry who had passed the turret, being joined by a party who came by a cross road (for it seems their plan was to surround the house by advancing in different directions) stationed a guard upon the bridge to prevent any re-inforcement arriving in that direction. About ten or a dozen of this guard were in a very few minutes shot by the marksmen from the windows, upon which the rest fled ; not one of the Insurgents ventured afterwards to appear upon the bridge ; so that the communication with the western road was in a great measure preserved, the importance of which to the little garrison at Clonard, will appear in the event of the day.

The enemy being thus defeated in their first onset in both

points of attack, became exasperated to an extravagant pitch of fury—and determined upon the most savage revenge. A large party contrived to penetrate into the garden, by the rear, and some of them immediately rushed into the turret. The yeomen stationed there were upon an upper floor—they had the precaution to drag up the ladder by which they ascended;—the Insurgents endeavored to climb up on each other, so as to reach the upper story, but they were killed as fast as they appeared; others then ran their pikes through the ceiling, and fired shots, but without effect. The conflict was obstinate—twenty-seven of the Insurgents lay dead on the ground floor, when at length, a quantity of straw was brought and set on fire. The building was soon in flames; two of the yeomen, Mr. Michael Cusack, and Mr. George Tyrrell, endeavoring to force their way through the smoke, were immediately put to death; the rest of the party, viz. Mr. Allen, young Mr. Tyrrell, and two others escaped, by leaping from a window twenty feet high into a hay-yard, from whence, under cover of a wall which divided it from the garden, they escaped into the house.

Having succeeded so well by the effect of conflagration, the enemy set fire to the toll-house and some other cabins on the left near the bridge, for the purpose of embarrassing and confusing the garrison; during this operation, they were seen throwing their dead into the flames, for the purpose, it was thought, of evading discovery. The battle had now lasted near six hours: about five in the evening, the approach of succor was descried from the house—the hopes of all were elevated, and they fought with renovated vigor.

One of the guard who had been excluded by the sudden shutting of the gates in the morning, finding he could be of no other use, repaired to Kinnegad, represented the situation of his friends at Clonard, upon which fourteen of the Kinnegad infantry, under Lieutenant Houghton, and eleven Northumberland fencibles, under the command of a Sergeant, immediately collected, and with great gallantry marched for Clonard. The communication by the bridge having been kept open in the manner before related, Lieutenant Tyrrell sallied from the house, and soon effected a junction with this reinforcement. A few vollies completely cleared the roads, and having then placed the Northumberland and Kinnegad men in such situation as most effectually to gall the enemy in their retreat from the garden, the Lieutenant undertook in person, the hazardous enterprise of dislodging them from thence.

At this time, it is supposed there were 400 Insurgents in the garden; numbers of them were posted upon a mount planted with old fir-trees which afforded considerable protection, and many lay concealed behind a privet hedge, from whence they could distinctly see every person who entered the garden, though they could not be seen themselves. Lieutenant Tyrrell, at the head of a few picked men, rushed into the garden, and was received by a general discharge from both parties of the enemy: no time was lost in attacking the party behind the hedge, who being defeated, retired to the mount. Here the action again became warm, the Insurgents appeared determined to maintain the advantage of their situation, and the yeomen, though fatigued with the labor of the day, could not think of retiring. Six of them were badly wounded, among whom was Mr. Richard Allen, who had so gallantly defended the turret—a ball passed through his left arm, and entered his side: his comrades still persevered with the most undaunted courage, and supporting a steady and well directed fire against the mount, the enemy were at length dispersed, and in their flight were met by the Northumberland and Kinnegad corps, who made great havoc among them.

The victory was now complete—as glorious an achievement, we will venture to say, as occurred during the rebellion, and for which the gallant officers and men can never be too much applauded, whether we consider it as an unexampled display of genuine loyalty and true courage, or estmate its

value from its immense importance to that part of the country, and the kingdom at large. It was the first check which the United Army of Wexford and Kildare experienced, and proved the fore-runner of those multiplied defeats which terminated in its total dispersion.

MRS. TYRRELL'S SUFFERINGS WHILE PRISONER WITH THE INSURGENTS.

After the battle it might have been expected that the little garrison would have given themselves up to an excess of joy; but the breast of their commander was filled with anxious solicitude—the partner of his heart—his wife! the mother of those three gallant youths, who mixed in the hottest scenes of the day, was absent the whole time, and no tidings of her had reached the garrison. The men sympathised with the husband and the children, and success was thought incomplete, until she was restored to their embraces.

Probably the reader may participate somewhat of a similar feeling, and derive some gratification from a brief narrative of the circumstances attending the lady while in possession of the Insurgents.

On the morning of the 11th of July, about the hour that the guard dispersed, as we have before mentioned, Mrs. Tyrrell went in her carriage from Clonard to her own house at Kilreiny upon some domestic concerns—she soon heard the Insurgents were coming, and speedily drove back with the hope of reaching Clonard before them.

In this however she was disappointed; the noise of musketry convinced her of the impracticability of this attempt. The servant was ordered to turn about and drive to Kilreiny, from whence she intended to send an express to Edenderry. She

had not however proceeded many yards, when the carriage was overtaken by two men on horseback, armed with drawn swords, who with oaths and menaces ordered the servant to stop. They turned the carriage back towards Clonard until they overtook about 200 men armed with pikes, a few muskets and some swords. They searched the carriage for arms, but did not find any. Mrs. Tyrrell describes the men as a ragged, wretched looking banditti: three of them armed with muskets mounted the boot of the carriage: three more got behind it—and in this manner, attended by a great crowd, the carriage was drove two miles round to the high road leading from Dublin to Clonard: here they kept her a prisoner, notwithstanding her frequent entreaties to be enlarged; she at one time apprehended the pike-men would cut her to pieces, as they quarrelled among themselves; some being disposed to treat her with civility—others the reverse—after some time she prevailed upon them to permit her to retire into a cabin, the inhabitants of which knew her, and two men armed with muskets were placed as sentries. She there remained until the Insurgents were defeated at Clonard, when the whole body upon their retreat assembled at the cabin; one of the Insurgent officers came in and desired Mrs. Tyrrell to get into her carriage; she asked for what purpose? He replied, that she must go with them; she entreated him to permit her to remain where she was, and that her carriage and horses were at his service; he for some time denied her request; but falling on her knees to supplicate him, he told her she might stay. He then withdrew; but immediately a great common fellow came in, seized her by the arm, dragged her to the door, and desired some men to lift her upon a horse which had been provided for her, as some wounded men were to be put into the carriage. Mrs. Tyrrell's alarm now became excessive—she looked round for the person who had consented to let her remain in the cabin, and getting her arms round him reminded him of his promise. He acknowledged his engagement, but confessed he had

not power to perform it—that she must go with them, but would be accommodated with her own carriage. Three or four men then thrust her into the carriage, which moved on, attended by an immense body of people, and a great number of officers. When they had proceeded about a mile, the carriage was stopped and entered by Col. *Perry* who said he was fatigued. Mrs. Tyrrell endeavored to prevail upon him to let her go, but in vain—she told him she would use all her influence for his advantage, if ever she had an opportunity. He answered, that the yeomen had taken a general officer, at Clonard, and that she must remain a prisoner till his fate was known. After some time the carriage was stopped again, and a fellow came in, who told Col. *Perry*, he had a right to it, as he had taken it, and though quite a common fellow, *Perry* had not power to prevent him. Mrs. Tyrrell then applied to this man for protection; he answered that she could not obtain her liberty. She was now reduced to all the anguish of despair, when a gleam of hope suddenly darted across her mind, upon seeing a man riding beside the carriage whose countenance was perfectly familiar. This was one *Kearns*, a popish priest; who had been for some time a curate in the neighborhood of Clonard, and had always been received in Mr. Tyrrell's house, with the respect due to his clerical function, and the hospitality of an Irish gentleman. Upon meeting a man, who had feasted for weeks together at her table, and a clergyman too! she thought herself secure, and implored his protection: he coldly answered—"O yes, Madam"—But with all the base and black ingratitude of a sullen and unfeeling heart, insensible of past kindness, he drew back his horse, and with the jesuitical prevarication, natural to such a character, determined not to interfere, while he affected to console her with an implied offer of assistance. Thus deserted, she again abandoned herself to despair, and began to prepare herself for that death, which she now looked upon as inevitable. A man, who sat upon the boot of the carriage, was suddenly struck with the

fervency of her devotion, and turning round, said, *He* had as much authority as any other man there, and that the lady should do as she pleased. Elevated a little from her despondency by this expression, Mrs. Tyrrell gave him her gold watch, promising him any further reward he would demand, if he would procure her liberty.—At this time a person in the garb of an officer, and whose countenance beamed with the rays of humanity, rode up to the carriage. She immediately addressed him in the most supplicating terms; imploring him to take pity upon a poor defenceless woman, who had not, and could not injure him. He interrogated her as to who she was and how she came there. She told him. He protested that he did not before know of any such thing, and requested to know what she wished to do. She replied that she only required to be let on her feet, that she might proceed home. He immediately ordered the cavalcade to stop; handed her out of the carriage in the most kind and humane manner—conducted her through an immense crowd of armed men, and apologized for not accompanying her to Clonard, by saying, "she knew he could not do it with safety." Mrs. Tyrrell made him the acknowledgments of a greatful heart, and begged to be entrusted with his name, that if ever it should be in her power, she might return the kindness she had then experienced, and repay the obligations she had received. He said, he was afraid she could not do him any service, and with apparent reluctance told her, he was Capt. *Byrne!* He then returned to his party, and Mrs. Tyrrell having met some of the people in whose cabin she was a prisoner, they accompanied her to Clonard, where she was consoled for all her sufferings by finding her husband and children alive.

The gentleman (for such his conduct evinced him to be) who called himself Captain *Byrne*, proved to be Mr. *Byrne*, of Ballymanus, in the county of Wicklow, who afterwards surrendered himself to Government, and Lieut. Tyrrell being in Dublin at the time, repaired to the Castle, had an interview

with Mr. Byrne; expressed his acknowledgments to him in the warmest terms, and represented the conduct of Mr. Byrne to the Administration in such a manner, as shewed the Lieutenant's sense of the obligation, while it promoted the lenient disposition which was afterwards manifested to Mr. Byrne.

Thus have we given an authentic detail of the battle of Clonard and the circumstances attending it, which in fact have been but little known, no official account having ever been published concerning it. One subject of regret, however, remains for the victors, in the loss of Mr. *Richard Allen*, who died of his wounds a few days after at Mullingar, regretted by all who knew him, as a young gentleman of unsullied integrity, and undaunted courage; attached to his King by the purest principles of loyalty, and to his family by the warmest affection; he was a zealous yeoman, and a steady friend. All that seems necessary to add, is to say a few words respecting the fate of this Insurgent army and its leaders.

FATE OF THE INSURGENTS.

After proceeding some distance from Clonard along the Dublin road, they turned to the right and took up their quarters for the night in the village of Carbery; where they possessed themselves, of Lord Harberton's house, and indulged in drinking wine and spirits to excess—they were most of them intoxicated, in which state, if they had been attacked, they must have been totally destroyed. But the force at Clonard was too small, had suffered too severely, and expended too much ammunition to attempt a pursuit. On the morning of the 12th of July, the Insurgents moved from Carbery to Johnstown, and from thence by the Nineteen-mile-house into the County of Meath. They were pursued by Lieutenant Colonel Gough, with a small party of the

Limerick militia, and the Edenderry yeomen. An express had been sent to Col. Gordon, commanding at Trim, to march out with a force from thence and co-operate with the Edenderry detachment. Colonel Gordon accordingly left Trim, with 200 men and two pieces of cannon; but, from some fatality, yet unexplained, did not join the attack, which Lieutenant Col. Gough, after waiting some time and reconnoitering the enemy posted upon a hill, commenced against them, with only sixty infantry and twenty cavalry. The event of that engagement is well known: the Insurgents were completely defeated, leaving immense booty of cattle, &c. behind them.

They were next pursued by General Myers, with detachments of the Dublin yeomenry, and Buckinghamshire militia, and though the General was not fortunate enough to overtake them, yet he drove them towards Slane, where they were attacked by General Meyrick, and in several subsequent days were met by different military bodies, who successively routed them, so that at length this formidable body were completely dispersed.

CHARACTER OF COL. PERRY, AND PRIEST KEARNS, WHO WERE EXECUTED.

Every man who survived, thought only of providing for his own safety.—Colonel Perry and Father Kearns made their escape into the King's County, and were attempting to cross a bog near *Clonbollogue*, where they were apprehended by Mr. Ridgeway and Mr. Robinson of the Edenderry yeomen, who brought them to that town, where they were tried and executed by martial law. Perry was extremely communicative, and while in custody both before and after trial, gratified the enquiries of every person who spoke to him, and made such a favorable impression, that many regretted his fate. He acknowledged, that 150 of the Insurgents were killed and wounded at Clonard—which, though accomplished by 27

men, will not appear extraordinary, when it is known that these 27 men fired upwards of 1300 ball cartridge!

Kearns was exactly the reverse of his companion—he was silent and sulky, and seldom spoke, save to upbraid Perry for his candid acknowledgments. The history of this priest is somewhat extraordinary. He had actually been hanged in Paris, during the reign of *Robespierre*; but being a large heavy man, the lamp-iron from which he was suspended, gave way, till his toes reached the ground—in this state he was cut down by a physician, who had known him, brought him to his house, and recovered him. He afterwards made his escape into Ireland; was constituted a curate of a chapel near Clonard, and having suffered so much by democratic rage and insurrectionary fury, he was looked upon as an acquisition in the neighborhood, then much disturbed by the defenders. He inveighed against those nightly marauders with such appearance of sincerity and zeal, that he was frequently consulted by the magistrates, and sometimes accompanied them in their patroles. Some suspicion of treachery on his part was at length entertained, from the uniform discovery of the operations agreed upon by the magistrates, in consequence of which he was excluded from their councils, and a positive information being sworn against him for instigating a murder which was afterwards actually committed, he fled into Wexford, where he became a member of an assassinating committee, in which capacity he continued to be extremely active, until he accompanied Col. Perry upon the expedition into Kildare, which he is known to have encouraged, and which finally led him to that fate, which was the just reward of an hypocritical and malignant heart, filled with gloomy and ferocious passions. He seemed rather to be an instrument of hell, than a minister of heaven, for his mind was perpetually brooding over sanguinary schemes and plans of rapine, while he assumed the sacred vestments of a servant of Christ!

The following authentic letters may be relied on, having been written by persons of undoubted veracity, who were fully assured of the facts therein recited.

LETTER I.

CARLOW, JUNE 31ST, 1798.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

YOUR affectionate letter I did not receive till eight days after date: I have felt much uneasiness at not having it in my power to answer it sooner; you may think it strange that in the space of ten days I could not procure time for that purpose, but were you acquainted with my situation you would be convinced that it is a fact. If I live to see you, I trust fully to convince you of the same.

Providentially for me I was absent from Carlow at the time of the attack on that town—I say providentially; for my warm spirit and forward disposition might have led me into danger. The account which I received from people of veracity, who were on the spot is as follows:

On the 24th of May, the day preceding the attack, Haydon, a yeoman, but an officer of the Insurgents, repaired to the country, and spent the day in mustering his forces. A letter relative to the business, directed to Mr. J. D. of Arles, was, by mistake put into the hands of a loyal yeoman of the same Christian and surname, and residing in the same place: the bearer was conveyed to Maryborough and executed, and the letter sent to Col. M—— who commanded in Carlow, by means of which, the military had timely notice of the intentions of the Insurgents. There being no barrack for infantry in the town, the new men were billeted upon the inhabitants:

the genteeler sort paying for their lodgings ; they were in general quartered in the cabins. The intention of the Insurgents was, to murder the soldiers in their lodgings, surprise and take the horse-barracks, and then make themselves masters of the town ; which in all probability they would have done, had not God brought their designs to light in the manner above mentioned ; for, on receipt of the above information, the infantry were ordered into the barracks, and kept under arms till the Insurgents had entered the town.

About twelve o'clock the Insurgents came forward in great force ; and too confident of a victory not yet gained, gave three cheers, crying "the town is our own!" but how dreadfully were they disappointed! for in that moment, the military rushing forward, cut them down in all quarters ; and having posted themselves in an advantageous manner, cut off almost all possibility of a retreat. Many of these deluded creatures fled into the houses for shelter ; but there justice pursued them—for the soldiers set them on fire immediately. About eighty houses were burned, but the numbers consumed therein could not be ascertained.

It is supposed not less than six hundred fell that morning ; and what is surprising, only two, I believe, were found among the bodies with any symptoms of life!

Thus did God frustrate the designs of the wicked, and display his justice and mercy in a singular manner.—His *justice*, in suffering the ungodly to fall into the pit which they had digged for their innocent, unoffending neighbors ; and his *mercy*, in preserving those whom he employed as the executioners of his vengeance on his enemies. Not a soldier or yeoman was so much as slightly wounded!—One soldier indeed, who had not left his billet, they hung with a sheet ; but being soon extricated, he recovered immediately.

Sir E. C. Bart. Haydon, Kelley, Kane, Borro, two Murphys, one of them a Sergeant in the yeomenry, and several others were executed a few days after. Haydon, it is said, finding it

going against his friends, slipt into his father's house, dressed himself in regimentals, and came out and fought against those whom he had a few hours before led to the slaughter.

Thus, by the inteference of HIM who declares a hair of our head cannot fall without his permission, was an innocent people saved from the murderous designs of a sanguinary foe.

I remain yours affectionately,

F. R.

LETTER II.

ROSS, JUNE 20TH, 1798.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

THE following account relative to the affair at Ross, is remarkably brief : particulars would fill a volume ; and as there are many things said, concerning it, which cannot be depended on, I think it best to confine myself to a few plain facts which are not disputed by any.

On the 4th of June, in the evening, the Insurgents to the amount of near 20,000, took possession of Corbit-Hill, one mile distant from Ross. The military force in the town was remarkably small ; the fears of the inhabitants were raised to an alarming height but the coming in of the County Dublin militia quieted them much.

Between three and four o'clock in the morning of the 5th, the engagement commenced. Early in the action the Insurgents were for some time victorious, having driven before them

all the black cattle they could collect through the country; this threw the military into confusion, and obliged many of them to retreat in great disorder over the bridge; in consequence of which, some pieces of cannon fell into the hands of the enemy. The Insurgents then set fire to the houses in the suburbs, about two hundred and fifty of which were consumed: but this turned to their own disadvantage, for the wind blowing towards them, they were enveloped in smoke, which, together with the immoderate quantity of spirituous liquors they drank on Corbit-Hill, rendered them incapable of their business. The Dublin and Donegal militia who kept the guards at the Market-house and Fair-gate never left their post, by means of which the Insurgents could not penetrate into the centre of the town—had they ran, Ross, and in all probability the provincial towns in Munster, would have fallen.

The soldiers who retreated (except some who fled to Waterford) soon rallied again, and entering the town in a furious manner, obliged the enemy to run. The battle lasted for near twelve hours!—3000 Insurgents it is said lay dead in and near the town! many also must have died of their wounds: it is thought that between fifty and sixty of the military fell: it was too many, but we could hardly expect such a victory on more reasonable terms. B. B. Harvy was commander in chief of the Insurgents; but for his bad generalship on that day was deposed, and the command was afterwards given to Roach.

It was on this dreadful day that the barn at Scollabogue, (in which one hundred and seventy Protestants, men, women, and children were confined) was burned; the Insurgents in their retreat from Ross, set it on fire, lest the prisoners should escape. About twenty of these sufferers I was personally acquainted with, some of them were my intimate friends. This burning was not the act of one person as some report; priest Shallow, of the parish of Newbawn was present. Twenty-five not included in the above number were shot in the most deliberate manner, their clothes being worth preserving. I pass

within two miles of the melancholy spot every month, and often converse with those who know every particular relative to it, both loyalists and Insurgents.

Yours, &c.

F. R.

LETTER III.

COLLIERY, AUGUST 1ST, 1798.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

IT would give me much satisfaction to have it in my power fully to comply with your request, by furnishing you with an accurate detail of the engagements which took place between his Majesty's troops and the Insurgents, for the publication you mention. If the following particulars to which I was an eye witness can be of any service, you are at liberty to make what use you please of them.

On the morning of the twenty-third of June, 1798, the Insurgents who had been driven from Vinegar-hill appeared opposite New-bridge, or Gore's-bridge, a neat village on the river Barrow, Co. Kilkenny. The forces quartered there, consisting of one troop of the 4th dragoon guards and a company of the Wexford militia, prepared to stop their progress, and in order thereto, took possession of the bridge; but perceiving the Insurgents planting their cannon on the opposite side, and fording the river in considerable numbers, (the water being low,) they were obliged to retreat: all the cavalry escaped, but about twenty of the infantry were made prisoners, some of whom were put to death on that and the following day. Their intention (as one who had been prisoner with them informed me) was to form a junction with the Colliers, and after taking Castle-Comber, to proceed to Kilkenny on Monday morning.

From New-Bridge they proceeded through Kelly-mount, (plundering as they went along) to a hill five miles from Cas-

tle-Comber, in the range of mountains called the Ridge, where they stopped for the night.

Finding it impossible to get to Ross, according to my travelling plan, I was obliged to take up my quarters in the Colliery the week before. Here I remained in total ignorance of what was going forward in other parts of the country, till the twenty-third, the day above mentioned, when an express arrived, informing us that the Insurgents had crossed the Barrow, and were on their way here. Determined to know the truth of the information I rode off accompanied by a friend towards the Ridge. After riding about three miles, I got in view of their camp, and by the assistance of a pocket telescope could discern their numbers to be about 8000. They had two stand with white colors, and some soldiers, (I suppose those taken that morning) along with them. Here I met ten or twelve loyalists with fire arms; two or three of their company were just murdered by the Insurgent pickets, and some more wounded. Having procured a musket I advanced with four more till we came in sight of the dead bodies; but as the Insurgent scouts were within musket shot we did not think it prudent to venture farther.

Seeing a man covered with blood a distance from me I called to him; he crawled forward and fell at my feet,—he was a loyalist, and had received a dreadful wound from a broad sword on the head, and a few slight wounds on other parts of the body. Imagining there was no probability of his recovery, I advised him to make the best use of the few remaining moments he had; but on examining his wounds and having cause to believe they were not mortal, I bound them up in the best manner I could, and procuring a horse to carry him, my friend and I, at the risk of our lives, brought him four miles across the mountains to Castle-Comber, where his wounds were dressed: he is now perfectly recovered; and the happiness which the remembrance of that transaction affords me, more than compensates for the danger which attended it.

From seven till ten o'clock, the roads were crowded with protestants, flying from all parts of the adjacent country, into Castle-Comber. At one o'clock a troop of the 4th dragoons, a company of the Downshire militia, and a few yeomen arrived from Ballinakill; these, with a troop of the R. Irish dragoons, two companies of the Waterford militia, and one corps of yeomen cavalry, about two hundred and fifty in all, made up the whole of our military force; a small number to oppose 8000 Furies! but that the battle is not to the strong, the event of that day proved.

About four o'clock, the Insurgents arrived at Gurteen three miles from Castle-Comber, where they heard mass; at five they had mass again (it being a holiday) at the Gizebo, a mile nearer.

Between six and seven the engagement began at Cool-bawn, one mile and a half from town. Being with the advanced guard, I was present at the commencement. The Insurgents advanced in the most daring manner, and in pretty good order, having placed their musketeers in the front, who kept up a brisk fire. I continued behind the infantry for about fifteen minutes, during which time the balls were whistling on every side. I was so ignorant as to enquire what occasioned the whistling noise, and being informed it proceeded from the balls, I began to think of providing for my safety, as my presence there was useless, having at this time no arms. I then planted myself behind the pier of a gate; but observing the Insurgents advance, and the soldiers to give way, I rode back to the town: the cavalry followed immediately, and just behind me shot a villain, who had the audacity to desire the officer to surrender the town. Here I had a miraculous escape; for many of the infantry who came down close behind me were shot, by the lurking Insurgents from behind the hedges.

The military then took possession of the bridge, where the battle continued hot for the space of fifteen minutes, when Captain G——n ordered a retreat: the cavalry, and part of

the infantry, instantly obeyed; but about twenty of the Waterford militia absolutely refused, declaring "they would prefer death to dishonor." They were mostly Roman Catholics! I had not heard the orders, but my horse taking head, ran off; when I knew their intentions, I did not attempt to prevent him. We halted about a mile and a half from the town, when looking behind we beheld it all in a blaze; the Insurgent inhabitants, and some who came the back way set it on fire. The firing ceased for a few minutes, the cause of which I know not, but words cannot express what I felt in that moment: I concluded that my unoffending friends had fallen victims to the Insurgent savages: they were presented to my imagination in a thousand dreadful forms. God pardon my feelings that moment! How hard is it to forgive such enemies. I proceeded slowly till I met Gen. Asgill, with about 1000 men: with these I returned, sunk with sorrow, fearing the tragic sight which I expected to present itself on entering the town would be too much to bear; but thanks be to God my fears were groundless—the few military which remained, about thirty Protestants, who were determined to fight for their wives and children, or perish with them, kept possession, nor suffered an Insurgent to cross the bridge.—Our cannon, in mistake, played on the town for some time, but providentially no lives were lost thereby. The Insurgents on sight of the reinforcement, took shelter in the woods, and from thence killed a few of the military; but eighteen rounds of grape shot dislodged them. It was four in the afternoon before they retreated. It is said 400 Insurgents fell. There were twenty-six Protestants in colored clothes, and about 20 soldiers killed—some of the former were butchered in cold blood, in a manner too dreadful to relate.

For the safety of Kilkenny, the troops were obliged to return there that night; the loyalists, who fled with them, I think could not be less than 600; they left the most of their property behind them; which a party of the Insurgents who returned carried off.

The hand of God was visible in our deliverance that day; but remarkably so in three instances which I shall mention.—*First*, from midnight till five o'clock, we had the greatest fog I remember to have seen; had it not been for this, in all probability, the Insurgents would have divided themselves into different parties, and surrounded the town: but being strangers in the country, and not knowing where they might meet the army, they kept in a body on the main road, and attacked us but in one place. *Secondly*, the burning of the town, for the day being remarkably calm, the smoke lay on the street, which prevented them from seeing our force; for had they known that the army fled, it is more than probable they would have entered, as there were many entrances unguarded.

Thirdly, the Waterford militia's disobedience of orders, had they retreated, without a very extraordinary miracle, the loyalists would have fallen a prey to their unmerciful, yet unprovoked enemies.

Yours, &c.

F. R.

LETTER IV.

KILKENNY, AUGUST 30, 1798.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

IN a former letter you have an account of the fate of Castle-Comber, &c.—I have only to notice in this, that some gentlemen who fell into the hands of the Insurgents, while in possession of that town, were brought into the presence of the Insurgent General Murphy, who is said to have been a priest in the Co. Wexford, and was excommunicated for his bad conduct many years ago.—He was dressed in black, affected the appearance of a stupid enthusiast, and shewed some bullets, which he said had been fired at him, but had rebounded from his invulnerable body. Incredible as it may seem, this

wretched invention was generally believed, by the more wretched dupes under his command.—You have here a real statement of the facts, of which I know you have sufficient curiosity to desire to be informed.

On Monday morning* our reconnoitreing parties observed the Insurgent army posted on the bog, between John's-well mountains and the ridge, about eight miles distant from this city—they seemed to be at rest, and remained quiet, except when relieving their sentinels, till four o'clock, when they were observed to move to the right, along the ridge, towards Kelly-mount and New-Bridge.

In the course of the evening several false alarms electrified the inhabitants here—yet the garrison was left the whole day at rest. Next morning Sir C. Asgill marched with a large force, consisting of two pieces of artillery, part of the Wexford and Wicklow regiments; of the 4th, 5th, and 9th dragoons, of Hompesch's cavalry, the Romney fencibles, and of the Kilkenny, Gowran, Fassadineen, Shillelogher Desart, Thomastown, Myshall, and Kellishin cavalry. He was joined on the march by the Leighlinbridge infantry, and a part of the Downshire militia, with their artillery, also the Maryborough and Ballysin corps of yeomen cavalry.

About six o'clock he came up with the Insurgent army, amounting to from five to six thousand men, advantageously posted on a rising ground, in an extensive flat, at Kilcomny, near Gore's-bridge—nothing could exceed the joy of our brave soldiers, after so many fatiguing marches, at least to have a pleasing prospect of retaliating; the officers were obliged to restrain their ardor. The engagement began with a terrible fire of artillery, which the Insurgents returned with quickness, but entirely without effect.

A very hot fire was kept up near an hour, but unable to withstand the impetuosity of our troops the Insurgents began to give way, and fled towards the county of Wexford.

* The writer omitted the date.

A horrible slaughter now ensued, which lasted six or seven hours, nor did it cease while an Insurgent was to be seen. —1100 Insurgents were left dead on the field of action! among whom was the *invulnerable commander, Murphy*. This victory was so very decisive that we got possession of all their artillery, amounting to 15 pieces of different callibre—all their standards, ammunition and baggage, a vast number of pikes, muskets, swords, &c. 700 horses, a great quantity of bedding, blanketing, and wearing apparel, which were given up to the soldiers who bravely contended for the same.

Yours, &c. &c. ——

LETTER V.

Maryborough, April 20th, 1799.

My Dear Friend,

Being desirous of making public the valor of the troops of this town under the command of Major Matthews of the Royal Downshire regiment against the Insurgents, I send you a plain narrative of facts as follows:

On the 24th of June, 1798, four hundred of the Downshire regiment, with their battalion guns, Captain Pole, with the Ballysin troop of yeomen cavalry, and Captain Gore, with the Maryborough, (both troops under the immediate command of Captain Pole) proceeded towards the Collieries of Castlecomber and Donane, by order of Sir Charles Asgill. On the road we saw Castle-comber on fire; soon after we arrived at Moyad, and saw the Insurgent army in great force on the high grounds above Donane; we then received intelligence that Sir Charles had engaged them at Castle-comber that morning, and that his force was at least, double to ours, but that he had retired to Kilkenny. It was now too late in the evening for us to attack; we therefore fell back on Timahoe, determined to engage them in the morning. At Timahoe an express met us from Sir Charles, desiring we should return to

Maryborough ; this was answered by an express from us, proposing to Sir Charles to attack the Insurgents next morning on the road from Donane, and that we would attack on the road from Timahoe. The answer to this proposal we received at 7 o'clock next morning from Sir Charles, who would not agree to it, as he said his troops were fatigued, but left it to us to fight, if we could do it with security, where we were, or to return to Maryborough. We chose to risk the former, and the proper arrangements being made, returned to Moyad where we had last seen the Insurgents : when our cavalry arrived there, they found the Insurgents had gone off to the Ridge ; where we pursued them, and were again disappointed in bringing them to action, as they had marched for Gore's-bridge : our cavalry then proceeded to old Leighlin, from wich place Captain Pole, who had gone forward for intelligence, sent an express to inform Sir Charles Asgill of what he had done, and of our intention to attack the Insurgents wherever we found them. At old Leighlin we met with Mr. Vigars, to whom our intention of attacking the Insurgents was made known, and he, seeing our troops much fatigued, immediately supplied us with a number of cars to carry them ; without which assistance, we should have been much distressed ; he likewise accompanied us to the scene of action, and was always in front giving us every assistance in his power. The whole corps arrived at Leighlin-bridge about twelve at night. In two hours after an express came from Sir Charles, desiring us to meet him at Gore's-bridge at five in the morning ; we instantly marched, but on the road we got such intelligence as induced our commanding officer to alter his route, in order to get between the Insurgents and the mountains ; an account of which he sent to Sir Charles, by Mr. Moore, Collector of this place, who, with his brother, Mr. Pierce Moore, marched with us and to whose able advice and knowledge of the country, I heard Major Matthews say, we in a great measure owed our success. After a march of about three hours we came

in sight of the Insurgents ; and as soon as we got sufficiently near, fired some cannon shot at them : they retired from us about a mile and a half to form their line ; we followed in column, with our guns in front, and our cavalry in the rear ; just as we got orders to form our line for the attack, we heard Sir Charles' cannon on the other side of the hill ; at this instant our cavalry were ordered to charge, which they did in a most gallant style : the Insurgent line was instantly broke, and we joined Sir Charles' troops in the pursuit, which continued with great slaughter for above six miles ; all the cannon, horses, stores, and prisoners they had were taken, and their army dispersed.

When it is known that the Insurgent army would not have been brought to action, or even an attempt made upon them, but for the exertion of this little corps—and when it is known that this corps pursued a large body of Insurgents, at least five thousand strong, with ten pieces of cannon, for nearly forty miles, without orders or directions from any general officer whatsoever, and that, (except some bread they got at Leighlin-bridge,) not a man of them tasted food for forty-four hours, I think you will agree with me that they did their duty, and that their country ought to know it.

Yours, &c. &c.——

LETTER VI.

BELFAST, APRIL 29TH, 1799.

SIR,

IN compliance with your request I shall set down briefly what has been already communicated to many ; but must, through the medium of your intended publication, be more generally circulated.

On Saturday morning, June the 9th, 1798, Colonel Stapleton having received intimation of the number of people assembled at Saintfield, and neighborhood, he set out from New-

townards, with a detachment of the York fencible regiment, accompanied by the Newtownards and Comber yeomen cavalry and infantry; altogether about 320 men, and two field-pieces.

About half past four o'clock in the evening, this little army fell in with a body of Insurgents, supposed to be between six and seven thousand men, near Saintfield!

The light infantry, commanded by Captain Chetwynd, advanced with great gallantry, to secure an eminence on the right, which having accomplished, he was attacked by a force of at least three thousand Insurgents—the front armed with pikes, the centre and rear with muskets, whose fire galled them severely, till the body of the troops and field-pieces came up, when the Insurgents were routed with huge slaughter. The Insurgents by their own account, lost above five hundred men, among whom were many of their leaders. The King's troops, after routing the Insurgents, marched to Comber, where they halted during the night—next morning proceeded to this town.

I am much concerned to inform you of the loss of three brave officers by those miscreants' hands in this action. *Capt. Chetwynd, Lieut. Unite*, and *Ensign J. Sparks; Lieut. Edenson*, was wounded. The whole return of the killed and wounded of his Majesty's troops were—29 killed, and 22 wounded. The valor of the officers that fell in this engagement, deserves to be publicly recorded, but that of the amiable, gallant, and much beloved Captain C. ought not to be passed without particular notice. This brave fellow, at the head of his men, received no less than nine pike wounds! notwithstanding which, he continued his position, encouraging by his example his men to fight like loyal soldiers; till alas! two wounds from muskets deprived this hero of his existence, and our country of his future services.

Poor Spark—whose race of glory was now ended, was but sixteen years old, and had just before he fell, received for his intrepid conduct the public approbation of his commanding officer.

Too much praise cannot be given the Newtownards and Comber yeomen cavalry, who, conducted by Captains Houghton and Cleland, evinced the greatest intrepedity during the whole of the action.

If it be possible to convince those deluded creatures who were then in arms against the peace and prosperity of this nation, and of their certain destruction, should they again have recourse to such rebellious measures, it must be the event of the above action, where so many were cut off by such an inferior force.

P. S. It was ludicrous to behold the varied badges of distinction as worn by the Insurgent chiefs; some were dressed in green jackets, turned up with white, others yellow; white vests, buckskin breeches, half-boots, hats with white cock-neck feathers and green cockades, &c.

Yours, &c.———

LETTER. VII.

TYRRELL'S PASS, APRIL 30th, 1799.

DEAR FRIEND,

I SHOULD have answered your favor sooner, but was making every possible enquiry in order to furnish you with the best account of the engagement at Kilbeggan. The gentleman, the bearer of this (one of our officers) and I, were present on the occasion.

On the 17th of June 1798, (on the preceding day a fair was held in Kilbeggan. The lower order of the people appeared uncommonly civil, and this country had a more placid appearance than for some time before,) at 11 o'clock at night, a recruit of Captain Clarke's gave information that the town would be attacked on the next day. As many similar alarms

had been circulated before, this was not much regarded—however, the videts of horse were ordered to keep a sharp lookout, and give instant intelligence, should any number of men be descried by them.

At break of day (at that time of the yearabout two o'clock,) some persons were perceived on the top of a hill westward of the town. Immediate notice of this was given to the officer commanding, who directed that the horse-guard should continue to observe the motions of the enemy; and should their numbers increase, to retreat slowly, about two hundred yards in front of the town, and apprise him of the same.

It soon appeared that their force was between three and four thousand, divided into bands, from sixty to an hundred, in regular order, with different kinds of arms, principally pikes, from five to ten feet long, pitch-forks, &c. Each band moved separately, headed by an officer, distinguished by a green sash or cockade—most of the men had white paper bands round their hats.

It was generally remarked that they had all clean shirts on, had each a piece of oat-bread in their pockets, and many were apparently intoxicated.

The town (the subject of this letter) has not been remarkable for loyalty—the principal fears of the garrison arose from an apprehension of treachery. There were then under arms sixty of the Northumberland fencibles, about thirty of the Fertullagh cavalry, and thirty loyal protestants, who either belonged to the town, or had fled there for refuge.

On the first appearance of the Insurgents, (three hours before the attack commenced) an express was sent to Tullamore, where the principal part of the 7th dragoons lay—General Dunne forwarded a troop, about eighty in number—the want of a sufficient force was of the worst consequence, as the Insurgents attacked our party in the mountains, and obliged the fencibles to retreat back to the town. Meantime the loyalists cleared the streets, which were now full of Insurgents

without the loss of a man—the cavalry pursued—Sergeant Price alone killed fourteen pikemen. On hearing the firing, a few of the cavalry stationed at Tyrrell's-pass flew to the scene of action, just before the Black Horse arrived—both, aided by the dismounted from Tyrrell's-pass killed 400 of the enemy.

Yours, &c.
C. F.

[The publisher having waited in vain for a detail of the engagements at Naas, Kilcullen, Hacketstown, &c.* and public curiosity daily increasing, being desirous of gratifying the same, he deems it most advisable to insert the following official accounts received at the Castle.]

Extract of a letter from Lord Viscount Gosford Col. of the Armagh Militia, and Maj. Wardle of the ancient British Light Dragoons, to Lieut. Gen. Lake, dated Naas, Thursday Morning, 8 o'clock, 24th May, 1798.

This morning, about half past 2 o'clock, a dragoon, from an out-post, came in, and informed Maj. Wardle, of the ancient British, that a very considerable armed body were approaching rapidly upon the town. The whole garrison were instantly under arms, and took up their position according to a plan previously formed, in case of such an event happening. They made the attack upon our troops, posted near the gaol, with great violence,but were repulsed: they then made a general attack in almost every direction, as they had got possession of almost every avenue in the town. They continued to engage the troops for near three quarters of an hour, when they gave way and fled on all sides. The cavalry immediately took

* Those battles having come to hand, are given in PART SECOND.

advantage of their confusion, charged in almost every direction, and killed a great number of them. A great quantity of arms and pikes were taken, and within this half hour many hundred more were brought in, found in pits near the town, together with three men with green cockades, all of whom were hanged in the public street. We took another prisoner whom we have spared, in consequence of his having given us information that will enable us to pursue these Insurgents; and from this man we learn that they were above a thousand strong: they were commanded, as this man informs us, by Michael *Reynolds*, who was well mounted, and dressed in yeoman uniform, but unfortunately made his escape; his horse we have got.

About thirty Insurgents were killed in the streets; in the fields, we imagine, above an hundred; their bodies have not yet been brought together.

It is impossible to say too much of the cavalry and infantry; their conduct was exemplary throughout.

Extract of a letter from Lieutenant General Dundas, to Lord Viscount Castlereagh, dated Naas, May 25th, 1798.

In addition to the account which I had the honor of sending you yesterday, I have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship, that about 2 P. M. yesterday, I marched out again to attack the Insurgents, who had assembled in great force on the North side of the Liffey, and were advancing towards Kilcullen-Bridge: They occupied the hills on the left of the road leading to Dublin; the road itself and the fields highly enclosed on the right. The attack began between 3 and 4; was made with great gallantry, the infantry forcing the enemy on the road, and driving them from the hills on the left; the

cavalry, with equal success, cutting off their retreat. The affair ended soon after four. The slaughter was considerable for such an action; one hundred and thirty lay dead. No prisoners.

I have the further satisfaction of stating to your Lordship, that his Majesty's troops did not suffer in either killed or wounded. The Insurgents left great quantities of all kinds of arms behind them, and fled in all directions.

This morning all is in perfect quietness. General Wilford, from Kildare, joined me last night; an officer with whom I serve with unspeakable satisfaction.

The troops of every description, both officers and men, showed a degree of courage which it was difficult to restrain within prudent bounds—Captain La Touche's corps of yeomenry distinguished themselves in a high style.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. James Mc Gee, Vicar of Clonmore, Co. Carlow, dated Hacket's-town, three o'clock P. M., May 25th, 1798.

In consequence of information received this morning, that a large body of Insurgents were marching to attack the town,* Lieutenant Gardiner, with the men under his command, and a party of yeomenry commanded by Captain Hardy, went out to meet them. Having reconnoitred their force, which amounted to between three and four thousand, they took post on a hill under the Church, and when the Insurgents came tolerably near, the officers and men made a feint, and retreated into the barrack.

The Insurgents seeing this, came on with a great shout imagining the day to be their own. In a few minutes Captain

* For the second attack on Hacket's-town, see PART SECOND.

Hume came up with about thirty of his troop, and instantly charged them, on which the Insurgents retreated. A general pursuit took place; and so complete was the rout, that above three hundred of the miscreants now lie dead on the field of battle.

To say that the *Antrim* regiment behaved well is not any thing new; but the yeomen under captain Hardy's command behaved astonishingly; nor can I sufficiently commend the conduct of Captain Hume and his corps; for though his right arm was in a sling, owing to a very severe fall from his horse, which prevented his using his sword, he headed his men with gallantry, and went on with spirit and bravery that surprised every one, considering his situation.

As to Lieutenant Gardiner, his conduct and steadiness throughout the whole affair is far beyond my praise; but I am sorry to inform you that a severe blow of a stone he received on his breast from a villain whose life he had just saved, prevents his writing to you himself. He is, however, thank God, walking about, and having been let blood, is much better; the villain was shot dead on the spot.

Every one of the *Antrims* was vying with each other who should do his duty best; and I have very great pleasure in telling you that not a man (Mr. Gardiner excepted, and one soldier, who received a contusion in his arm) was in the least injured. In short, the loyalty and zeal of the whole party was beyond any thing that has been seen on a similar occasion.

The Publisher having been favored with the two following letters by an intimate friend (to whom they were written without any intention of appearing in print,) and also being personally acquainted with the writer, assures the Public that every particular set forth may be received as facts.

Such is the established character of the writer (as known to numbers,) that he would not advance a falsehood—he was in most engagements from the breaking out of the late Insurrection, to the defeat of the French at Balinamuck; an account of which is now in possession of the Publisher, and given in the *Second Part*.

LETTER VIII.

An account of the Battle of Arklow, by W. H. G. of the Armagh militia, in a letter to a friend in Dublin, dated Arklow, June 13th, 1798.—Written on the field of action.

My Dear Friend,

I wrote to Mr. H. by one of the conductors, who promised to leave the letter at your house, in which I gave him a circumstantial account* of what took place from the time I left Naas, till the battle of Gorey, and our retreat to Wicklow afterwards.

On Saturday last, we were informed that the Insurgents in great force were pursuing us: the drums beat to arms, and our force assembled immediately. Our General formed a square of infantry at one end of the town, and left the cavalry to defend the other. In a little time we marched to the village called Houlett, within seven miles of Wexford, with an intention of remaining there for the night; but perceiving their pickets on an adjacent hill commanding our camp, at ten o'clock we struck our tents, marched by a circuitous route and in the morning, at dawn of day, we found ourselves on the off-side of their daring position.

From their great numbers and strong bulwarks they conclu-

* This account is given in PART SECOND.

ded they were impregnable. It is agreed they had that day on Vinegar-hill 30,000! We reconnoitred for some time, and distinctly observed them to draw up in *solid lines*. The battle, by the command of General Lake, was to commence at nine o'clock. His army took one side of the hill to bombard it, the light brigade, under Colonel Campbell took another—other commanders were fixed in like manner. Our brigade, consisting of the Armagh, Cavan, Durham, Antrim, and part of the Londonderry, Bunbarton, Tyrone, and Suffolk—in all about 3000 brave troops, had to march four miles; it being appointed that we should flank them in another quarter.

I shall give you a view of their situation.—Vinegar-hill is very steep, rising in the form of a cone: at the but of it are two other hills, with quicksets and other ditches across them—these were lined with their musketry men:—a river runs at the bottom of both, and adjacent is a small wood. At the bottom of Vinegar-hill is the—once beautiful, but now ruined—town of Enniscorthy; on the top of the great hill is the but of an old wind-mill, on which they had placed their *green flag* of defiance, in a word, the position of the Insurgents was one of the strongest I ever saw. The Insurgents did not wait the time appointed, but commenced cannonading at seven o'clock. They could not tell what to make of the bombs, and said, "they spit fire at us"—indeed they answered the desired end, by the numbers they destroyed upon their bursting.

The light brigade, assisted by the cavalry, gained one of the lesser hills, planted their cannon, and played briskly on them: in a short time we possessed ourselves of both—the Insurgents made to the top of Vinegar-hill with all possible speed—the soldiers pursued hard after them and beat them off it. In a little time the *green flag* became a prey to the Royal Band, who triumphed in its fall—it was an arduous attempt, but we succeeded in the end. The Insurgent commanders deserted

their men when they found the day proved unfavorable to their interests, and fled towards Wexford, leaving the deluded wretches to be cut in pieces.* The engagement lasted two hours and a half—the soldiers merited the cloth they wore, and gloried in the name of WILLIAM. Our brigade remained all night in the demesne of Harvey Hay, one of the Insurgent chiefs: next day we returned to Houlett again, where we encamped for two days. The scouting parties killed more after the different engagements than what fell in battle—many of their commanders were taken and hanged. We have suffered much from lying on the roads and ditches rolled in our blankets. I have almost lost my hearing, but am content when the *good old cause* triumphs.

P. S. At Vinegar-hill we killed men of 70 years old—we rescued three officers of the Antrim militia, and twelve privates of the same regiment: yesterday we hanged two of them for endeavoring to vote away the lives of two of the above officers and soldiers when prisoners.

Yours, truly,

W. H. G.

THE following letter was written by a sufferer in the Wexford Insurrection, while in possession of the Insurgents—it fully corroborates the truth of the atrocities stated in the Narrative by Charles Jackson, printed and now selling, by the publisher hereof.—Price 6dh.

* There were only 16 Rank and File killed, and 62 wounded, of his Majesty's troops in this engagement.

LETTER X.

Wexford, May 1, 1799.

Sir,

Although I have not the happiness of being personally acquainted with you, at the request of your friend, Mr. W—s, it affords me pleasure to have it in my power to send you a copy of an *accurate detail* of the effects of the late dreadful Insurrection, as it respected this part of the kingdom, written by an inmate and fellow sufferer with me, and transmitted to Dublin, for publication in July 1798.

On Friday evening, the 25th of May 1798, about 9 o'clock the North Cork militia then quartered here, with the Wexford yeomen cavalry and infantry, were ordered under arms, in consequence of an alarm that the Insurgents were rising in the neighborhood of Camolin in this county; and we continued under arms the whole of that night. On Saturday, orders arrived here from Dublin Castle to the high sheriff, to apprehend B. B. Harvey, J. Colclough of Ballyteigue, and Edward Fitzgerald of New-Park; and they were committed to gaol on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. The 27th of May, an express arrived here, that the day before an engagement took place between a party of the Camolin cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Buckey, and a large body of the Insurgents; that the Lieutenant was killed; but that they had repulsed the Insurgents; that they were then (Sunday Morning) in great force in the neighborhood of Oulart, burning the houses of different protestant inhabitants in that part of the country. In consequence of this information,* Lieutenant Col. Foot with Major Lombard, and six other officers, and 106 men of the North Cork militia immediately proceeded from this town,

* See PART SECOND.

and came up with the Insurgents at an advantageous position they had taken on a hill near Oulart. Through the rashness of the Major, in charging the Insurgents in an incautious manner, the whole party were surrounded, and not a man escaped instant destruction but the Lieutenant Colonel and two privates. By this defeat the Insurgents had acquired a powerful accession of strength and confidence; having got the whole of the arms and about 57 rounds of ball-cartridge from each man, they not having fired above three or four rounds when they attempted to charge them with bayonets. On the following morning, the 28th, the Insurgents attacked Enniscorthy, and after a very severe conflict of three hours, and above 500 of them being slain, they took it owing to the treachery of some of the inhabitants in setting fire to the town during the engagement, which obliged the militia and yeomenry to evacuate it;* and they, with all the loyal inhabitants that could escape, retired on Monday evening to Wexford. On Tuesday, the 29th, the Insurgents formed two powerful camps, one at Vinegar-hill, near Enniscorthy, and the other about three miles on the road between Wexford, at the Three Rocks, on the road between Wexford and Ross, and sent threats in here that 10,000 men would be detached from those camps to attack the town next morning.—On Wednesday, the 30th, information was received that a body of the military, (supposed to be the 13th regiment) was attacked by the Insurgents near the camp at the Three Rocks; this induced Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell, who arrived the day before with two hundred of the Donegal militia, to march out with his men and four troops of yeomen cavalry to their assistance; but before he had come up with them, they entirely cut off the party, which proved to be a slight detachment of the Meath militia, of about 100 men, who were coming to Wex-

* Farther particulars are given in PART SECOND.

ford with three howitzers ; and with these howitzers the Insurgents attacked Colonel Maxwell's party, and obliged him to retreat into Wexford. The 13th regiment, who were coming to our relief, finding they could not proceed to us without attacking the Insurgent camp, returned back to Waterford. From these rapid successes, and their increasing numbers, (as it was supposed there were then 20,000 men ready to attack Wexford) the people here were panick-struck ; and finding that many who were entrusted with arms had deserted their colors, and it being considered that others could not be depended on, the officers concluded that the town was not tenable, and without firing a shot it was evacuated on the 30th of May, and shortly after entered by the Insurgents, who kept possession of it until the 21st of June. As to the different engagements the army has had with the Insurgents at Ross, Newtownbary, Arklow, &c. you must already be informed of them ; in many instances the reports were vague and contradictory, I shall, therefore, confine myself to such particulars as fell within my own knowledge, or that I have reason to believe are facts.

The atrocities committed by these ferocious tigers while they held this town, were, I believe, unprecedented! After taking possession of the town without opposition, they immediately shot several protestant inhabitants, tore open most of our houses, destroyed and carried off our effects, (their rage was most particularly directed against poor Mr. Daniels and mine) put every protestant inhabitant to death some few excepted that they received amongst them were sent to prison ; but they would not stop here, we were obliged to slaughter each other. The Sunday after they had taken the town, June the third, Pigott, Robson, a Mr. Edwards and I were dragged from our cells, and forced by the Insurgents, to put to death a man for being an approver against a priest, of the name of Dixon, who had attempted to swear him to be an United Irishman. After being made the instrument of his destruction, we were forced to drag his body from the place of execution and throw it in the river. After deliberating for some time, whether they should despatch us, at that moment or not, they carried us to gaol. Others of the prisoners were obliged to perform the like office to another approver. After every species of insult and tyranny to us in prison, the fatal day at length arrived (Wednesday the 20th of June,) when the total extermination of the prisoners (namely 500) and all the protestants of the town, man, woman and child, was openly avowed to be their determined purpose! About 95 of the prisoners were taken out and tortured to death by pikes on the bridge of Wexford ; they returned for more victims, and I was dragged out of the cell, when above fifty wretches whose ill will I had incurred, by exerting myself in the line of my duty, cried out to have me destroyed. Providentially an express arrived at that moment, that the army had defeated a considerable party of the Insurgents, at Long Graige, between this and Ross, and requiring an immediate reinforcement ; this made them beat to arms, and induced at that time to stop the work of blood. The following day they were totally defeated at their great camp (as they termed it) at Vinegar-hill, and routed in all directions, and on the same day the remaining prisoners were liberated by the army. The horrid cruelties they committed in this town fell short (if possible) of what they did in other parts of the county ; at Scollabogue, between Taghmon and Ross, they put 150 protestants into a barn and burnt them to death, amongst whom were two beautiful and accomplished young ladies of the neighborhood ; poor G——, the surveyor of Taghmon, attempted to escape from the flames at this place, and was shot by them. At Enniscorthy they scarcely left a loyal man alive that they could find, and the town was almost consumed by fire. There were about ten of their leaders hanged here, upon the arrival of the

army, amongst whom was B. B. Harvey, Col. Grogan of Johnstown Capt. Keugh, J. H. Colclough of Ballyteigue, and Kelly of Killarn who were afterwards beheaded, and their heads placed over the Court-house. In consequence of a proclamation from Gen. Lake, inviting the Insurgents to desert their leaders, and promising pardon, numbers came in with pikes, &c.

Such, my dear Sir, is the recital of what I can recollect of the barbarities practised here during the reign of these monsters. What my feelings and sufferings were, during that period, I cannot attempt to describe. That the Almighty Providence may preserve us all from such another visitation, is the ardent prayer of,

Yours, &c.

The following Clergymen and gentlemen, were taken prisoners, and put to death by the Insurgents.

The Rev. Samuel Haydon, Enniscorthy ; Rev. Robert Burrowes* and Son, Oulart ; Rev. Francis Turner, Billingale ; Rev. Mr. Pentland, Killan; Rev. Mr. Troke, Templeshannon; Capt. Allen Cox, Coolclife ; Major William Hore, Harpurstown ; Edw. Turner, Esq. Slaney-Lodge ; Edward Howlin D'Arcey, Esq. B——n.

*This gentleman, though perforated, has happily survived.

APPENDIX.

No account having appeared of the attack at Prosperous, it is presumed the following affidavit made before the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of the city of Dublin, will furnish the reader with most particulars relative thereto.—The Examinant is well known to the publisher, and favored him with a copy of the same for the present *Narrative*. The Examinant suffered much in the rebellion, being obliged to desert his house and property to a considerable amount, which became a prey to the Insurgents.

County of the City of Dublin, to wit. } The examinant of J. D. late of Prosperous, in the county of Kildare, who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, maketh oath, and saith ; That for many nights previous to the night of the 23d of May last, this examinant and his family were very much alarmed lest they should be attacked by the Insurgents commonly called United Irishmen ; that examinant thought he and his family were in some degree secure, by the arrival of detachments of the ancient Britains and the North Cork militia ; that however examinant still continued to be alarmed, as his house was a considerable distance from the barracks ; that examinant saith that he was awakened about the hour of one o'clock in the forenoon, by the barking of a large dog he had, and for sometime after he was alarmed by the firing of some

shots ; examinant saith that on looking out of his window, he perceived a great body of people armed with pikes and fire-arms, between whom and the soldiers in the barracks a constant firing was maintained : that as the balls passed by this examinant's house, and one of them close to his head, he withdrew and let down the window ; that soon after examinant saw the barracks on fire, and heard the soldiers exclaim, " The house is on fire ; we shall be burnt up or suffocated, we can fight no longer ;" that soon after examinant saw the roof of said barracks fall in ; examinant saith that said Insurgents (whose numbers had increased so much as to fill the streets of Prosperous, and to cover the adjacent fields,) on the falling of the roof of said barracks, gave many shouts which seemed to rend the skies, and made this examinant and his family thrill with horror ; that the said Insurgents exclaimed " That tha day was their own, and they would there plant the Tree of Liberty." Examinant saith that the said Insurgents knocked at his door, and desired to have it opened, expecting to find there a party of soldiers who had been billeted there a short time before, and Mr. Stamer, who had lodged therein when he went there to receive his rents,—part of the town of Prosperous belonged to the said Stamer : examinant saith that the said Insurgents approached his house in a large body, six of whom preceded the rest mounted on some of the horses which they had taken that morning from the ancient Britains at Prosperous ; that examinant as soon as he came out of his door, was surrounded by a party of the said Insurgents, who presented their pikes at him, and who he expected from the ferocity of their looks would have instantly put him to death ; that one of the said Insurgents held a musket at examinant's breast with his finger on the trigger ; that another of the said Insurgents, who was a turf-cutter, held a drawn sword over examinant's head; and examinant verily believes they would have instantly put him to death, but a young man in the crowd who seemed to

have some influence interposed, beat down the musket which was presented at his breast, and said he should not kill him ; examinant saith that he knew many of the said Insurgents, to whom he and his family had been very kind. That soon after the said Insurgents went in quest of the said Stamer, who lodged at some distance from the said town; that having seized him, the said Stamer, they led him through the street by examinant's house, surrounded by a number of pike-men, while a low fellow held a pistol at his head ; examinant saith that as he passed by the examinant's house, he the said Stamer cast a melancholy farewell look at examinant and his family,—that soon after the said Insurgents massacred the said Stamer. Examinant saith that soon after he went out with an intention of enquiring for his friend Mr. —— an inhabitant of Prosperous, and that before examinant had gone far he was again surrounded by the said Insurgents, who, he verily believes, would have put him to death, but for the interference of the person that had saved him before ; examinant saith he discovered soon after that Mr. Brewer, a respectable manufacturer of said town, who had employed many of the said Insurgents had been massacred by them, and that his body had been mangled with savage barbarity ; examinant saith that they also massacred a poor old man of the age of 70 years and upwards, who served as Sergeant in his Majesty's forces, they having considered him as an Orange-man ; examinant is convinced in his mind the only reason why the said Insurgents murdered the said Sergeant was his being a protestant ; examinant saith that when the said Insurgents had committed the said barbarities, they exclaimed with savage joy " where are the Heretics now ? Shew us the face of an Orange-man." Examinant saith that many women, who acting with the said Insurgents, used expressions of that nature, as often and as loud as the men, and that some old women who were amongst them seemed to brighten on the occasion, and to shew as much fervent

joy as the youngest among them : that some of the said women kissed and congratulated their fathers, their husbands, or their brothers, on the victory they had gained, and exclaimed " Dublin and Naas have been taken and are in possession of our friends ; down with the Heretics and down with the Orangemen." Examinant saith that many of these wretches who had been actors in that bloody scene, had come into the town of Prosperous the preceding day, and in presence of Captain Swayne, of the Cork militia, whom with a party of his regiment that morning, viz. the 24th of May, they had massacred, and also in the presence of their parish priest of the name of Higgins, and declared their contrition for their past errors, and gave the strongest assurance of their loyalty for the future—that many of the said Insurgents surrendered their pikes to the said Swayne, and as such surrender was considered as a test of their repentance, and as necessary to entitle them to written protections, numbers of them lamented that they could not obtain such protections, as they never saw nor had a pike, and that many of them declared they would sell their cow, to purchase a pike, if they knew where it could be bought ; examinant saith that notwithstanding these declarations, many of the said Insurgents appeared in the ranks well armed with pikes ; examinant saith he is convinced in his mind that the said Insurgents would have plundered and burnt all the other loyal houses of Prosperous and would have murdered the remaining protestant inhabitants thereof, but that a party of the ancient Britains and the Cork militia, being a part of the detachment they had murdered that morning, unexpectedly approached the town, and that the said Insurgents on their appearance, fled towards the bogs and morasses ; examinant saith he could not refrain from shedding tears at seeing such scenes of savage barbarity, and that a servant who continued faithful to him desired him not to shew any sign of concern, lest he might draw on him the anger and vengeance of the Insurgents. (*A true Copy.*)

THE IRISH REBELLION IN 1798.

PART SECOND.

Soon after the twenty-third of May, large bodies of Insurgents shewed themselves, and began to commit horrid outrages in the neighborhood of Newtown-barry, Ferns, and Enniscorthy, burning houses, and murdering many respectable persons. The military force in the county of Wexford was but small, the principal part of it composing the garrison of Wexford, which was the head-quarters of the North Cork militia, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Foot. The garrison of Enniscorthy was commanded by Capt. Snowe, of said regiment, and consisted of one company of the North Cork, one company of Enniscorthy infantry (Capt. Joshua Pounden's,) and one troop of Enniscorthy cavalry (Capt. Solomon Richard's) ; there was also a small detachment of the North-Cork at Ferns, and the Scarewalsh infantry, under the command of Capt. Cornock. In consequence of a partial advantage obtained by the Insurgents in an affair near Ferns, in which Lieutenant Buckey, of the Camolin cavalry, was unfortunately killed, their numbers increased to an amazing degree ; and their murders, burnings, and devastations, were carried on with a still more savage fury ; the night served but to show more distinctly the conflagration all around, and in the day-

time the crowd of miserable sufferers, flying in a state of distraction into the town for shelter, impressed the mind with the utmost horror. In this situation the troops were employed on the most fatiguing duty; unable, from the insufficiency of their numbers, to have a relief during the night-time, and of course obliged to keep their whole force continually under arms till morning.

BATTLE OF OULART.

On the ensuing morning, Whit-Sunday, the twenty-seventh of May, a body, of the Insurgents, of about five thousand men, took post on the hill of Oulart,* within eight miles of Wexford; of which Lieutenant-Colonel Foot received immediate information, from Mr. Turner, a magistrate of the county, who brought the intelligence himself. The Lieutenant-Colonel lost no time in ordering a detachment instantly under arms, to march out and attack this banditti; and he determined to accompany it himself. The detachment ordered, consisted of one hundred and ten men, including non-commissioned officers, with Maj. Lombard, Hon. Captain de Courcy, and four subaltern officers, who marched off the parade in the highest spirits, with the idea of being the first to quell this daring Insurrection. When he had marched about eight miles, Lieutenant-Colonel Foot perceived a body of Insurgents, as he supposed, amounting to between four and five thousand men, posted on the hill of Oulart; the ditches also of the lower ground in their front, were lined with such of their men as were supplied with fire-arms: he, therefore, halted the detachment on the road, and with his pencil wrote a note on a scrap of paper, addressed to the officer he had left in command at Wexford, requiring an immediate reinforcement—this note he sent by the trumpeter of Col. le Hunte's yeomenry corps of cavalry, sixteen or seventeen of which had joined the North Cork on the march. By some fatality or other, which has never yet been accounted for, the detachment was moved from the road whilst the Lieut. Colonel was writing this note, and a party of a sergeant and twelve men detached to endeavor, if possible, to take the Insurgents in flank, whilst the remainder of the detachment pushed forward, crying out that they would beat the Insurgents out of the fields; by this movement it was instantly engaged with the Insurgents, who fired from behind the ditches; but the troops soon beat them from these, and they retreated, taking similar positions behind others, from which they were also routed with much less. This advanced party then fled in great disorder, to the hill, where the main body, chiefly pikemen, were posted; and was pursued, in equal disorder by the unfortunate North-Cork, whose impetuosity could not be restrained, although every exertion was used by the Lieutenant-Colonel to prevent it. At this critical moment, the main body of the Insurgents rushed down from the hill in a swarm, surrounded the dispersed detachment, and piked every man in a space of time hardly credible; the Lieutenant-Colonel, one Sergeant, and two privates alone escaping. Lieutenant-Colonel Foot was wounded in the breast by a pike, and nearly dragged off his horse, but being capitally mounted, he galloped off the ground, clearing every ditch in his way; the Sergeant who had been the one detached in flank, shot one of the Insurgents, who was mounted; and by taking his horse, made his own escape. How the two privates got off cannot be ascertained. Feats of great desperacy were performed by the ill-fated victims that perished; the granadiers in particular, who having wrested their pikes out of the hands of several of the assailants, at last fell from blows and stabs behind.

* For a former account, see PART FIRST.

The next day, Whit-Monday, the 28th of May, the Insurgents increased in numbers, to more than double; and supplied with the arms and ammunition they had taken from the unfortunate detachment, which had gone out with sixty rounds per man, and very few rounds of which had been expended, marched to Enniscorthy in the fullest confidence. They were commanded by General Roche, who had been a permanent Sergeant in Colonel Le Hunte's yeomenry, and by father John Murphy a Roman Catholic priest. However, Enniscorthy had been reinforced the day before, by the detachment of the North-Cork and Captain Cornock's Scarewalsh yeomenry, falling back from Ferns, unable to oppose the multitudes of Insurgents assembled in that quarter; the whole of the combined force now amounting to about three hundred men, under the command of Captain Snowe, and together with the loyal Ferns and Enniscorthy inhabitants, every man at his post, in the best positions that the situation and force would admit of.

BATTLE OF ENNISCORTHY.

At one o'clock in the afternoon, the action commenced, by a vigorous attack made by the Insurgents on the Duffrey-gate side of the town, having previously turned in before them a great number of loose horses to confuse and disconcert the troops; at the same time, the ditches in front of the Duffrey-gate were lined with several hundred of their best marksmen, who kept up a galling fire: the attack was opposed by the yeomenry and loyal inhabitants with the greatest gallantry, but from the vast superiority of the Insurgent numbers, there was much danger of the yeomenry corps being surrounded. Several loyal and brave fellows had fallen, amongst the rest Captain John Pounden, who commanded his brother's supplementary yeomen; but intelligence of it arriving to Capt.

Snowe, who was posted on the bridge, he marched up the whole of the North-Cork to their assistance. Just as he got to the Duffrey-gate, he was met by an officer of the cavalry, and informed that it was necessary that he should file off to the left, to prevent the intention of the Insurgents of surrounding the yeomenry, by entering a road, called the Daffney road which would have brought them into the town, in the rear of them; this he accordingly did, and took a position on that road, where an Insurgent column was within a very short distance of him; but instead of attacking him, the Insurgents detached a large body to cross the river, which was very low, and to occupy the other side of the town (Templeshannon) and the bridge which he had quitted; by which means, had it succeeded, the troops of all descriptions would have been completely hemed in; but the North-Cork ran back through the streets as quick as possible, to re-possess the bridge; in doing which, they lost a Sergeant and a private by shots from the windows: however, they arrived critically in time to line the bridge, and to give a severe check to the Insurgent column, just then, in the act of crossing the river, and a part of which had landed on an island in it.

Numbers of the Insurgents fell upon this occasion, by the fire of the North Cork from the battlements of the bridge; and none of their shots took effect from their confusion, from the protection of the battlements, and from most of them leveling so high, that their shots went whistling over the heads of the North Cork, whose fire was so incessant, that it was with the utmost difficulty it could be restrained, even after the Insurgents had got beyond its effect. Another body of the Insurgents had by this time made good a landing lower down the river, but an officer and fifteen men, of the North Cork were detached from the bridge, through Templeshannon, to meet them. The officer (Lieutenant Prior, now in the regiment, but then only acting as a volunteer, an old officer in the

line) took an excellent position, by lining the ditch of a ploughed field, from whence, by the report made by him to Capt. Snowe, on his return, the Insurgents sustained no small loss.

Baffled then, in their first attempt, the Insurgents ceased any further attack for at least a quarter of an hour, or twenty minutes, which gave Capt. Snowe an opportunity of renewing the ammunition of his own men, which was almost all expended, and of sending a fresh supply to the yeomenry; he was enabled to do this, from having a car on the bridge with him with his ammunition chest on it: in the mean time, the houses all around, on each side of the river, began to blaze, and exhibited an awful spectacle. The Insurgents took immediate advantage of this, to make a second and most desperate attack on the Duffrey gate and through the Irish street; and to send across the river to the Templeshannon side, another body, much lower down than where they had attempted it before, in order to take the troops on both their flanks. Their numbers and impetuosity were so great on the Duffrey-gate and Irish-street, that all the corps of yeomenry and the loyalists were obliged to retreat, fighting, into the very centre of the town, where they made a most determined stand; and here they were opportunely and nobly supported by the fire of a detachment of one Sergeant, one Corporal, and fourteen privates, composed equally of the militia and yeomenry, under the command of Sergeant Bennett, of the Enniscorthy infantry. This detachment had been posted in the morning, in the windows of the Court-house, which commanded the market-place under the idea of what now really came to pass; and the execution from its fire amongst the crowd of Insurgents was dreadful—no shot missing. At this moment, Capt. Cornock, wounded from the thrust of a pike, along his neck, ran down to the bridge, to inform Capt. Snowe of what was passing, and to request a reinforcement from the North-Cork,

which was immediately complied with; Capt. Snowe reserving no officer, and only one Sergeant and sixteen rank and file with himself. This reinforcement had not been gone five minutes, when the Insurgents appeared in Templeshannon, at the opposite end of the street, fronting the party of the North-Cork, which had been drawn across that part of the bridge to oppose them. After exchanging two or three shots, the party advanced rapidly through the street with fixed bayonets and ported arms, finding nothing else for it, and apprehensive that a much larger body of Insurgents might come on: they met no opposition till they came to the brewery, when about forty men dashed in amongst them from a lane on their left, and an obstinate contest ensued hand to hand; but the North-Cork being already loaded, and their arms in the best order, succeeded in almost totally destroying this party of Insurgents, very few individuals saving themselves by flight: a small number of them only had fire-arms, but the pikemen, wonderfully tall, stout, able fellows, fought with their pikes in the most furious and desperate manner, thrusting at the soldiers, who had much ado to parry with their bayonets after having fired before they could load again. Out of the sixteen men, two were killed and one wounded in the affray. Previous to the reinforcement under Capt. Joshua Pounden coming over from the Duffrey-gate, the formidable attack in that quarter had been repulsed by the united militia and yeomenry, and the great column of Insurgents completely driven out of the town. This happy success enabled Capt. Pounden to march his corps immediately over to Templeshannon, to the assistance of Capt. Snowe and his small party.

Notwithstanding the many repulses the Insurgents had received, in this very severe action of more than three hours' continuance, yet they had not drawn off; they occupied all the hills about Enniscorthy, and were seen in thousands climbing up the steep wood below the bridge, to take post on the

road leading to Wexford. They well knew that the troops, exhausted with the constant duty they had underwent for several days and nights previous to the action, and with the day's action itself, were in no condition to oppose fresh and repeated attacks that would be made on them in the night; they had no cannon, and were enclosed in a burning town, without the possibility of getting any kind of refocillation. From a conviction of the truth of this situation, a retreat to Wexford was proposed to Captain Snowe, by the river instead of the great road, the town being no longer tenable; to which he at last yielded, after giving his opinion, that he did not know how far he might be justified in doing so; but being told that if he did not, his retreat would be entirely cut off, in less than ten minntes, he ordered the drum to beat. The militia, yeomenry and loyalists marched off together, through the burning streets, the houses on each side of which were some blazing, others, a cake of red fire; they carried off with them such of their wounded as were at all able to move, the yeomen cavalry vying with each other which should give most assistance to these unfortunate sufferers, and equally so to the women and children, numbers of whom, inhabitants of Enniscorthy, followed the troops. No pursuit was attempted by the Insurgents, nor did they enter Enniscorthy for some time after the troops had evacuated it. In this day's action, Capt. John Punden, Lieut. Carden, an old officer, and Lieut. Hunt, fell; the latter at first only wounded, but afterwards murdered by the Insurgents, and about seventy of the troops, mostly yeomenry; several loyalists were also killed and wounded, on whose bravery too much praise cannot be bestowed. The Insurgents, by every subsequent account, lost five hundred men—they paid dear; for General Roch afterwards declared they were the flower of his army of fifteen thousand men, ten thousand of whom were armed with fire-arms and pikes, the remainder with such weapons as they could procure; however, their exact

strength could not be ascertained, they were supposed by the troops in the action to be about ten thousand. Roch was mounted on a grey horse, wore a cocked hat, was dressed in scarlet, and had a drawn sword in his hand. The troop made good their retreat, and marched into Wexford that night by nine o'clock, in perfect order, both cavalry and infantry.

LETTER XI.

FERNS, COUNTY WEXFORD, JUNE 22, 1799.

SIR,

A LATE publication of yours, entitled "An Impartial Narrative of the most important Engagements which took place between his Majesty's Forces and the Insurgents, during the Irish Rebellion, 1798," has just fell into my hands, and to do you justice, it must prove an acceptable publication, and a work of great merit. There is one engagement, however, among many others, of which you have taken no notice: that is, the battle at Ballycannow, in this country, fought on Friday, the first of June, 1798, of which I will endeavor to give you the particulars, being an eye-witness to the whole.

On the morning of the first of June, 1798, a party of the Camolin cavalry, consisting of an officer and about twenty men, were ordered by Lieutenant Elliot of the Antrim militia, on a reconnoitreing party towards Corrigrua-hill, and to return to Gorey by Ballycannow. The party immediately marched, and on coming within sight of the hill, the Insurgents (who arrived there that morning from Vinegar-hill) had taken post on the summit, and in a few minutes kindled a large fire, as a signal for their picket-guards to come in. This somewhat alarmed us as we were badly prepared with either arms or ammunition; but being determined, if possible, to obey our orders, we took another direction, and got to the crosses of

Ballymore, where we saw a large party of Insurgents on the hill, and another party after setting fire to all the Protestant houses in the neighborhood. Between this and Ballycannow a large party of the Insurgents were seen on their march from Oulart, being armed with guns and pikes, and a great variety of standards: on seeing us they hastened to Ballycannow, thinking to cut off our retreat to Gorey, whilst the entire body from Corrigrua-hill were pouring down after us. Arriving at Ballycannow, a guard of Insurgents attacked us; which we defeated, without any loss on our side, except one man and his horse slightly wounded. On our going into Gorey, we informed the commanding officer of these circumstances, and also that we were led to think their determination was to attack the town that evening or the following morning. Lieutenant Elliot thought it best to march his men out to meet the Insurgents and not give them time to make a formal attack. Having ordered the drums to beat to arms in about ten minutes the forces in Gorey, consisting of twenty Antrim, twenty North-Cork, twenty Gorey infantry, fifty Gorey cavalry, thirty-six Ballaghkeene cavalry, and forty-six Camolin cavalry, marched out in high spirits to attack them.

BATTLE OF BALLYCANNOW.

On coming to the summit of Balymanane-hill, two miles from Gorey, and midway between that and Ballyconnow, we had a full view of the Insurgent force: they had formed a camp in a plain field near the latter place, and were at that time refreshing themselves after their march. We proceeded down the hill, and within a mile distant of Ballycannow, the enemy had formed behind the ditches, whilst a large body marched towards us, driving horses and black cattle before them, for the purpose of throwing our troops into confusion. The action

now commenced, which, for an hour, was very smart, when they were, however, forced to give way, and fled with great precipitation; though they repeatedly attempted to form again behind the ditches, they were at last totally dispersed, with considerable loss. The cavalry pursued them in all directions over a vast extent of the country; the infantry proceeded to Ballycannow, met with an Insurgent commander and commissary named Kenny, took him prisoner, and finding him guilty, shot him and burnt his house, which contained property to a large amount. Two of the Gorey cavalry, and some loyalists who were made prisoners some days before, and doomed to suffer death that evening, were fortunately released by our troops, and by every account we could learn from them, their numbers were one thousand strong; that it was their intention to encamp on Ballymanane-hill that night, and to have attacked Gorey at an early hour the following morning; but it pleased God that they were frustrated in that particular. They also informed us that priest Murphy (who was since killed at Arklow) had the command of the body, and that he blessed their pikes and guns, said mass for them, &c. in Ballycannow, before the battle began. We have been informed that their loss was not short of two hundred killed, besides many wounded: their guns, pikes, standards and an immense number of horses, mules and asses fell into our hands; while, on the contrary, we had no lives lost. Lieutenant Elliot received a slight wound of a pike in the forehead, one of his men a wound in the thigh, and one of the Gorey troop wounded in the arm.

I remain, Sir,

Your Obedient,

Humble Servant,

P. C.

LETTER XII.

ROSBOROUGH, JULY 1ST, 1799.

SIR,

I AM only this day favored with your letter of the 22nd, inst. In answer to which, I beg leave to say, that Mr. M—ll has been under some mistake as to my having any particular knowledge of these affairs with the Insurgents which you mention, except that on the 19th of June 1798, at Ovitstown—which having been very briefly given in the official accounts from the Castle, I shall endeavor to state some of the particulars, as well as in my power at this distance of time.

On the 18th of June 1798, Lieutenant-colonel Irwine (having then the command of the garrison at Trim,) received intelligence that a considerable body of Insurgents, were assembling in the neighborhood of Kilcock, under the command of William Aylmer, formerly an officer in the Kildare militia, and other leaders. On that night about ten o'clock, he marched with what troops he thought could be spared from the garrison of Trim, and its vicinity, consisting of the following corps—viz. 4th Dragoon Guards, one troop: Duke of York's R. F. Highlanders, four companies, and two battalion-guns: Trim cavalry, one troop; Navan and Murgallion, one troop; Demifou one troop; Trim infantry, one company: total in the field, two hundred eighty four rank and file, with a due proportion of officers and Sergeants.

Having passed through Kilcock, on the morning of the 18th, without seeing any Insurgents, or getting any intelligence to

be depended on, about ten o'clock the advanced guard was fired on by part of a large body of them (by certain accounts since obtained from parties, concerned, there was upwards of five thousand) drawn up at the bottom of Ovitstown-hill, near Hortland-house. It being some time before the detachments could be formed, owing to the nature of the ground and the hedges; the Insurgents kept up a very smart fire, and made a desperate attempt on the guns in our front, though receiving their fire. These desperadoes, however, suffered for their temerity, by a considerable carnage which soon made them abandon that favorite object. They afterwards filed off to their right under cover of a hedge, with a view of surrounding the King's troops, but in this they were all disappointed, by our cutting through the hedge and falling on their flank, which completely routed them in that quarter—the difficulty of forming, being surmounted with the greatest steadiness by the troops; the whole body of the Insurgents then gave way, and fled with the greatest speed to the neighboring bog, where, by throwing away their arms and clothes, they effected their escape, leaving dead on the ground upwards of two hundred.

The loss on our side was as follows, 4th Dragoon Guards, one Sergeant killed; Captain Sir Richard Steele, one Sergeant, two rank and file wounded; Murgallion cavalry, one rank and file wounded; Trim cavalry, one rank and file wounded; Duke of York's Highlanders, Ensign John Sutter, one Sergeant, and five rank and file killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Irwine, one Sergeant, and seven rank and file wounded,—the first slightly.

I have heard Colonel Irwine say he received great assistance from Colonel Burrows of Dangan, (Co. Meath) who did him the honor to accompany us as volunteer on the occasion, and that every individual of the detachments behavior in this little skirmish, was such as did them the greatest honor.

The above is a hasty sketch of the business, agreeable to

your wishes; which, if thought worthy of mention in your publication, I assure you may be relied on as perfectly correct.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. C.

LETTER XIII.

ANTRIM, JULY 12th, 1799.

SIR,

I this day (for the first time) had the pleasure of reading your very interesting Narrative, and not seeing any account of the battle fought with the Insurgents in this town, I take the liberty of giving you an account of that affair; though the language is but poor, yet the statement is authentic.

BATTLE OF ANTRIM.

ON the 7th of June 1798, at 9 o'clock, A. M. an express arrived from General Nugent at Belfast, to Major Siddon of the 22nd light dragoons, commanding in the town of Antrim to inform him that there was a general rising expected in this county, and that the town of Antrim would be attacked, in order to secure the magistrates who were to meet there by order of Lord Viscount O'Neil, governor of the county.

Major Siddon immediately collected his small forces together, which consisted of one troop of the 22nd dragoons, the Antrim yeomen infantry, (eighty in all) commanded by the Earl of Massareene, and about thirty men who voluntarily turned out under the command of one Mr. J. Charters.

This handful of brave men, waited under arms on the parade, (which is at the very lower end of the town) from ten

o'clock A. M. until two o'clock P. M. when in an instant the out-posts were driven, in and immediately after about six thousand Insurgents entered the head of the town, with two brass six-pounders in front, and marched into the Church-yard, which is exactly in the middle of the town.

Upon this the Earl of Massareene made a short but pithy speech to the troops; the yeomen immediately marched up half way to the Church, and the light dragoons marched up in the rear. Just as the troops had halted, Lieutenant-Colonel Lumley, with two troops of his regiment, (22d light dragoons) and two curricle guns, came in from Blaris Camp; the yeomen were then ordered to file off to right and left, in order to line the streets, and give room for the cannon to act. Before the horses were unyoked from the guns, the Insurgents had fired two rounds of canister shot, which was fifty musket-bullets in a stocking. The salute was soon returned, and the roof of the Church being much damaged, the Insurgents fled into the houses and lanes.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lumley imagining this to be a total retreat, ordered the dragoons to charge but unfortunately the Insurgents opened so brisk a fire of musketry from the windows, that the dragoons were forced to retreat in great confusion, with the loss of twenty men, one officer and one quarter-master killed, Lieutenant-Colonel Lumley, Major Siddon, and Lieutenant Murphy wounded.

The Insurgents being greatly elated with this temporary advantage, rushed on furiously in order to surround the yeomenry, who still remained exposed to their fire. Upon this, the gallant Earl of Massareene was forced to retreat to his own garden, which being surrounded by a lofty wall, was a very proper post. The yeomen had been forced to leave the cannon in the street, but covered them so well by a heavy discharge of musketry, that the Insurgents could not touch them,

so that they were once more enabled to sally forth, and draw them safely off.

The yeomen continued in this position until four o'clock P. M. during which time they were often furiously attacked by large parties of the Insurgents, and as often bravely repulsed them. The Insurgents being worn out by so many vain attempts, retired from the town, and had actually sat down in a field adjacent, and had begun to feast upon large quantities of meat which they had brought with them; when a yeoman who was posted upon the top of Lord Massareen's castle, beheld a large reinforcement upon a neighboring hill; consisting of detachments of the Monaghan and Fifeshire regiments, under the command of Colonel Durham a party of the 22nd light dragoons, under the command of Major Smith, and the Belfast cavalry, under the command of Captain Rainey. A yeoman was then immediately despatched by a private way, bearing a red flag, to inform the army of the situation of affairs; the dragoons immediately pursued, and the foot separated and made great slaughter in the fields.

Upon the computation, the Insurgents lost four hundred men, while the army in killed and wounded, lost about thirty.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Viscount O'Neil, received a mortal pike-wound early in the action, of which he died on the 17th of the same month, at the Earl of Massareene's castle in the town of Antrim.

Nothing could exceed the valor of the troops on this occasion, a remarkable instance of which was, one Jackson, a young man, and a member of the Antrim yeomen, who having received a mortal wound in his knee, absolutely refused to retreat, until he would discharge his piece at the Insurgents: this poor young fellow (after suffering an amputation) died, much regretted by every real loyalist in this country.

The Insurgents were headed in this engagement by M'Givoren, a petty grocer, and an inhabitant of Antrim, and one

H. J. M'Cracking, a native of Belfast. M'Cracking was since hanged in the town of Belfast, but M'Givoren has been pardoned.

The Insurgents were so sure of victory, that they brought horses and cars, to carry away the spoil. But the hand of God fought against them, and discomfitted all their bloody intentions.

I am Sir,

Your humble servant,

I. M.

LETTER XIV.

Foxford, July 13th, 1799.

My Dear Friend,

I should have answered yours sooner, but on account of the hurry of military business, as also another reason: which is, that at the time I wrote the letters alluded to,* my feelings were more sensible to remark occurrences than at present—but as you have requested the favor, I will transcribe such particulars as I can now collect.

On Sunday, the 3rd of June, 1798, one hundred and thirty of our regiment (the Armagh militia,) commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Cope, marched into Corey; and in the evening we were joined by different other detachments. We halted there all night, and next morning paraded to the number (yeomenry included) of about eleven hundred brave looking men. I could not suppose that the Insurgents would have opposed such a force; nor did we expect battle till we arrived at Vinegar-hill; which, I believe, may have been the cause of the insecurity of our commanding officers, and which led to our defeat. The 4th of June (our gracious King's birth-

* The reader is referred, for the accounts of the battles of Arklow and Vinegar-hill, given by this correspondent, to PART FIRST.

day—oh! may we never commemorate it with such an awful scene) our forces were divided, one part under the command of General Loftus, the other under that of Col. Walpole, our fighting General. General Loftus took the main road leading to Wexford. I was under the direction of the latter who took a country road, which after a few miles travelling struck out on the former.

BATTLE OF TUBBERNERNEEN, NEAR GOREY.

We marched about three miles, when Colonel Walpole rode along the line on march, and requested of the troops to be in readiness, as he expected an enemy very near; their pickets having appeared within a mile of us. We came to a beautiful situation by nature; the quicksets were very high on either hand, as also a woody country, through which we were to proceed; in this place lay our enemy, to the amount of twelve thousand! They secreted their force behind hedges, to allure us into the ambuscade—which unfortunately answered their hellish design. Our cannon, consisting of two six-pounders, and a small field-piece of the Ancient British fencibles, were ordered to the front—the road became narrow, which prevented the great guns from acting agreeably to our wish; then began a heavy fire of musketry from each side of the road, and from behind the hedges, on our army; which continued on both sides without intermission, for two hours: the cannon ceased, owing to the narrow pass, as also the horses being killed in the traces. We were ordered to take a field in front of their fire: here we disputed the ground for half an hour, when eleven brave fellows of our regiment fell on each side of me. I am now bound in gratitude to acknowledge the kindness of God to me—while loading my piece, the cartridge, was taken out of my fingers by a ball, within four inches of

my head, and my pantaloons torn across by another—but the issues of life were in the hands of a kind preserver. Colonel Walpole received a ball in the thigh, and in a moment after another through the head; by which means this brave soldier fell a victim. A ball went through Colonel Cope's horse's ear, which grazed his cheek and passed through his hat, while commanding the men—several officers were wounded in like manner. In a little time their line broke, which we took for an omen of their defeat; but this was only to deceive us—for their two wings set up the *sur hoop*, and made for Gorey to cut off our retreat, which had been ordered to be made. Eighteen of our men, with Colonel Cope and Ensign Collins, were left behind in the meadows—having learned that the body of our army were gone, we were determined to fight our way after them. It was truly painful, as we passed along, to behold our cannon on the roads useless to us—the pikemen with exultation leaping across them, displaying their emblems of disaffection over them, crying "*Erin go brogh*, the English cannon is ours"—also the groans of the wounded, whose bodies torn and pierced by pikes, while yet living, rendered the scene altogether very awful! we not knowing but this would shortly be our fate: but God was with us—we fought and loaded while running, and endeavoring to avoid the fire of our own cannon, which were turned upon us by the Insurgents. We passed by Tubbernerneen-wick, where their green flag was displayed, and killed one of their chieftains on horseback; also a number who pressed after us. Arriving at the hill of Gorey (though scarcely able to move) we made another stand, and saved the lives of the protestants of the town, who otherwise (as they declared) would not have escaped. Numbers who were *ribands* as loyalists in the morning, fired out of windows on us at our return—yet not a man fell! In this encounter we lost in killed and missing, one hundred men, some of whom we afterwards relieved at Vinegar-hill.

I would here remark the necessity there is of pickets reconnoitreing the country while brigades are on their march, to prevent the enemy from approaching till the troops should be prepared to receive them; had this been the case, we should not have been defeated.—After the battle we got to Arklow, where we destroyed every thing military which we could not take off with us, and returned next day to Wicklow.

P. S. The cavalry made several unsuccessful charges during the battle—they could not act on account of the enclosures. A vast number of Insurgents fell on that day, as they since have acknowledged. Thus, have I transmitted to you, the particulars of this dreadful event, and am, dear friend,

Yours, &c.

W. H. G.

LETTER XV.

KILCULLEN, JULY 29TH, 1798.

SIR,

THE following lines shall be found as authentic as could possibly be collected by me, with respect to the battles of Kilcullen and old Kilcullen, on the part of the Insurgents, who never stood a volley but once, when they fled with great precipitation—there were but five or six of them killed, and some wounded; the Insurgents wounded one of the Suffolks severely in the hand with a pike, and killed Sergeant Clarke, of the ninth, who marched up with the infantry not having a horse to join his own regiment; it was by his own intrepidity he suffered, as he leaped over the wall, and rushed among the throng of the Insurgents—this terminated the business of that place.

I imagine this business would have been much more serious

to the army and loyalists, had it not been for either the policy or cowardice of *General Perkins*, who was posted on Knockawlin-hill, with about three hundred pike-men, and when the fight was going on, he and his men advanced running down from the hill to join their comrades, whom they had seen successful against the cavalry, but they halted short, and continued lurking about the ditches, and behind the carman's-inn, when they perceived the infantry had got the better of the Insurgents at the Church. I must here take notice that when the infantry and loyalists were marching forward to attack the Insurgents at the Church, the fourteen loyalists were ordered to halt, lest they should be shot through mistake, as they were all in colored clothes. Captain French then came up, and ordered us back to defend the town, as well as we could, that we were all surrounded. It was then that we saw Perkins and his men coming down, and we would have been surrounded by them, had it not been for the defeat of their friends at the Church. When we came back to Kilcullen, we could discern in the countenances of the men and women, joy mixed with feigned grief; for some hours we found ourselves in a very tickelish situation, every one around us Insurgents, and did not know the moment they would rise and assassinate us, when we were relieved from our fears, by a party of the Antrim militia, arriving afterwards a party of the Tyrone militia, and the remainder of the troops from Ballymore who escaped the slaughter. They remained under arms in the street for about an hour and an half, when General Dundas returned from the battle at old Kilcullen, with the remainder of the troops who went with him, Captain Erskine's troop of the 9th, from Athy, Captain Beale's twenty Suffolks and Captain La Touche's corps of cavalry. At the instant these troops were entering the town, there was word brought in from the turnpike side of the road, that the Insurgents were very near the town, in great force: they certainly were in force to the amount of two

thousand, formed into three different columns; the first was the most numerous, and extended across the road, and into the fields on the right and left of it, and were drawn up in good order: they were not more than two minutes march from us, when the intelligence arrived. No time was lost in going out against this great force—the attack commenced on the part of the Insurgents by a discharge of fire-arms, not one of which took the least effect: their fire was returned by the army most briskly, and after a few vollies the whole Insurgent line broke, and ran off as fast as their feet could carry them. They were now pursued by both cavalry and infantry, who slew them like Philistines. In the course of twenty minutes, four hundred and sixty Insurgents lay dead; the wounded were considerable. The army brought in three cart loads of pikes, and a stand of colors, which their valiant Ensign, Mr. Pendrose, threw away, thinking them rather cumbersome in his flight; this brave Ensign lived servant with Eyre Powel Esq. Not a single man of the army was hurt in this engagement, except Campbell, the permanent Sergeant of Captain La Touche's yeomen cavalry, who was accidentally shot through the body by one of the soldiers—he is now almost recovered. We thought every thing would be tranquil after this, but in the evening, the whole of the troops and loyal inhabitants, were ordered to evacuate the town, and march to Naas: the inhabitants had not time to bring their effects with them, and the next morning, the 25th, the Insurgents entered the town in great force: men, women and children, pillaged and carried away all the valuables they could lay hands on, and destroyed the houses and furniture of the loyalists.

On the evening of the 24th of May, 1790, the army which I mentioned being in Kilcullen, together with the loyalists, marched for Naas, where they arrived about nine o'clock at night. The army was the first of course who were accommodated, and the poor loyalists were obliged to remain in

the streets all that night—a very deplorable prospect!—but it turned out better than was expected; for they were culled out by order of the generals, and a proper house appointed for them where they were served out with beef, mutton, bread, &c. from the army stores. Nor had they any other way of getting provisions, for there was not an atom of any kind to be purchased—all sorts of provisions were in requisition for the army. Every day foraging parties were sent out, who brought in great quantities of fat cattle and sheep—bakers and butchers were set to work; so that there was plenty of every kind of provision that could possibly be expected in a garrison that might be to be besieged. Notwithstanding all this plenty, our minds were very miserable for a few days, from the constant alarms both day and night; not an hour passed with any degree of tranquility—a videte would come galloping in, with tidings that the Insurgents were coming in great force; that they would be in in less than ten minutes—the drums beating to arms, trumpets sounding to horse, soldiers running to their posts, both horse and foot—some to guard a pass, others to cover a retreat, others to make a charge, with an army of reserve, &c. &c. This was our situation during the five days I was there; but after the first day and night, those terrors became so habitual to us, that we did not mind them, but were prepared to meet with undaunted courage any number of Insurgents; and often have wished they would attack the town either by day or night. And although Naas is a town with very many entrances to it (indeed every back-door furnishes an entrance,) yet evey part was so well guarded that it was impossible for any force, without the assistance of cannon, to attempt coming near it; for, at the south end of the town is a large hill, immediately contiguous to the road leading into the town, and half the circumference of this hill is surrounded by a wall ten feet high; on this hill were encamped about a company of infantry, with

three pieces of heavy cannon, and engineers to work them.—At the North end of the town is a very high and large moat, which commands all that quarter where they could possibly make any attempt; on this moat were two pieces of cannon, with suitable equipage, and some infantry. In fact every port was so well guarded, that the CROPPIES never made an attempt after the night of the twenty-fourth,* for which they suffered wofully, having left sixty-five dead behind them in the streets. Scarcely a day past but there were several Insurgents hanged, who were found lurking about the fields; one in particular, Mr. Pat Walsh, of Ballytore, was taken in the field near Naas, hiding in the gripe of a ditch; he was remarkably well dressed, had a bottle of port, bread and cheese in his pockets, when taken. He was brought in, tried, found guilty, and hanged from a sign-post, and afterwards consumed to ashes—a just punishment for what he was guilty of but a few nights before, namely, the burning of a most active fine fellow, Capt. Swaine, of the City Cork, Royal militia, at Prosperous—see part first. This notorious traitor, Walsh, behaved with unparalleled cruelty, to a number of loyal persons; but blessed be God, his career was short, for only four days had he fought under the banners of an assassinating banditti, till the strong hand of the Lord avenged the cause of innocent blood. Perkins is at present under sentence of transportation, and is in New Geneva, and as I mentioned before, was General of the Insurgents at Knockcalling-hill, about a quarter of a mile from the Church of old Kilcullen.

On the twenty-eighth, Thomas Kelly, Esq. of Madden's town, near the Curragh, came into Naas with proposals from Perkins to General Dundas and General Wilford (he is a magistrate, and went to the Insurgent camp, where, by his persuasions he effected words of peace,) which are as follow:

See PART FIRST.

"That Perkins would oblige his men who were collected (to the number of above two thousand) to give up their arms, on condition that his brother should be liberated from Naas gaol, (for we brought him a prisoner from Kilcullen,) and that General Dundas should approach the camp with only his aid-de-camp and a file of men." Mr. Kelly having communicated these terms to General Dundas, he instantly dispatched his aid-de-camp, Capt. Reeves, to Dublin, to lay the business before government; nor did General Dundas give Mr. Kelly an answer, until Capt. Reeves arrived early on the following morning. I believe the answer he brought to General Dundas was, "to act as he thought most prudent." A short time after Mr. Kelly returned with Perkins, from the Insurgent camp, and every thing was accommodated as General Dundas thought proper. Perkins returned to the camp, and his brother was liberated, and went under a strong escort of the 9th dragoons, to protect him from the soldiers, who I believe would have preferred a combat with the Insurgents rather than compromise the business.

However, the day after Perkins and his brother left Naas, General Dundas with part of the army, both cavalry and infantry, with some pieces of artillery, went to Knockcalling camp—the troops were placed in a way to surround them, at least to cut them off, when they were once dislodged from the summit of the hill, (which is an amazing strong Danish-fort surrounded by a very large and deep trench, with a wall within-side) it would not have been easy to dislodge them but by bombs, for which purpose mortars were brought. As soon as the army had made the necessary dispositions, General Dundas with his aids-de-camp, and a few men went forward from the lines, and Perkins with a few of his men approached them and surrendered: the Insurgents on the hill perceiving this, set off in all directions, huzzaing, I fancy, with joy, that they were permitted to go to their homes; most in this

neighborhood immediately returned home—a great number from other parts instantly set off for Vinegar-hill. There were no provisions found in the camp, every thing being taken off the day preceding; there were thirteen cart loads of pikes left on it, which were brought into Kilcullen and destroyed. For three weeks they were flocking in from all parts of this district, taking the oath of allegiance, and getting protections; several, notwithstanding, were taken shortly afterwards in acts of open rebellion, with these very protections in their pockets, a plain proof of part of their creed "no faith is to be kept with a Protestant King, or with protestants" whom they call heretics. The next day after the forementioned, a large body of Insurgents collected on the Curragh, to an old Danish-fort commonly known by the name of *Gibbit Rath*, for the purpose of attacking the City of Dublin militia, who they knew were on their march to Naas, and were to come directly by where the Insurgents were assembled; now some say that they were collected for the purpose of surrendering; be that as it may, they were the first who violated the treaty, by firing on the troops. You may be sure it was then returned quick enough—they stood but one discharge from the army, when they fled in every direction: Lord Jocelyn's fox-hunters coming up in the instant pursued them and killed three hundred and fifty; there were also wounded a vast number;—the Insurgents could not have taken worse ground to make a defence, as there was neither bog nor ditch, to impede their pursuers—those fox-hunters as they are called, certainly would not have left one of them alive, had it not been for the trumpets and bugles having sounded a retreat, in consequence of an express sent by General Dundas from Kilcullen, for the purpose of preventing the army (which he knew was coming on that direction) from attacking any Insurgents they should meet: but the express was too late; had it been a few minutes sooner in all probability much human blood would have been

saved. One circumstance happened here which I cannot pass by unnoticed—the Rev. Mr. Williamson of Kildare, had been brought out by the Insurgents, who when the army was approaching, made his escape to them: the Dublin militia insisted he was a priest, heading the Insurgents and were so incensed against him, that they were really in the act of fixing a chain belonging to the cannon about his neck, in order to hang him, when his brother-in-law, Colonel Sankey, coming up, convinced them of their mistake, and saved him. Here is one instance of the consequencees of civil war, where the innocent often suffer for the guilty: this amiable gentleman narrowly escaped an untimely death, by the precipitancy of those gentlemen who did not know him.

I have only to add, that on evacuating Kilcullen, the Insurgents entered, accompanied by an immense crowd of women—that while in possession of the same, every species of excess was resorted to by them—their first object was to plunder the loyal inhabitants' houses, drain their cellars and destroy their furniture, &c. This we have been credibly informed by a loyal woman who had been made prisoner, and whose husband they brought to their camp and shot.—Mr. Flanagan, the executioner, ordering him to drop down on his knees, and open his mouth, he thrust a pistol into it, crying loud as he pulled the trigger, "come you scoundrel, here's a health to King George, and long may he reign."—Thus fell that loyal old veteran quarter-master King of the 9th dragoons, leaving two sons in the same regiment, one of whom was desperately wounded at Ballymore. Hoping the foregoing, may answer your intended work,

I remain sir,

Yours, &c.

L. M.

LETTER XVI

MONASTEREVAN, AUGUST 1ST, 1799.

SIR,

WITH reluctance I recall to mind the deplorable transactions of May 1798. I wish to God, they could be buried in utter oblivion; but, as this is impossible, and that they will be recorded, a true and faithful narrative should be published.

Our country, previous to the burst of open Insurrection, was dreadfully disturbed; frequent murders and assassinations of loyalists in open day-light—in short, terror was the order of the day; which certainly had the desired effect, of forcing many from their allegiance into the *vortex* of Insurrection.

On the 24th of May, 1798, we had an account that, of two of our lads (I mean of the Monasterevan corps of yeomenry,) who were in the country on business, one was barbarously murdered and the other a prisoner; the troop instantly marched, and made a circuit of several miles, to give the loyalists an opportunity of retreating into Monasterevan, which had the desired effect. They met numbers of those deluded people, and had some partial engagements, in one of which they had the good fortune to rescue three soldiers of the ancient Britains, part of a detachment marching from Kildare, consisting of a warrant-officer (whom they took prisoner and we rescued next day) and four privates, one of whom they barbarously murdered." One of our troop, who pursued too far into a bog on foot, was piked in a dreadful manner. The troop then called on Mr. Darrah (seven miles from Monasterevan, who had been desperately wounded some time before by these assassins, and now drags on a miserable existance, deprived of the use of his limbs, and in constant anguish,) in order to bring him and his family in with him; but it was impossible to remove him—his house had been attacked that morning by two or three hundred men, whom they beat off, killing several of them. At this time the country seemed alive with parties of pikemen running in all directions for Kildare, the *focus* of rebellion. The troop then returned home, where they arrived at eight o'clock, and found two companies of infantry who were quartered here, marching off to join General Dundas at Naas, leaving the town entirely to the protection of the yeomen, consisting of forty-three cavalry and forty-two infantry, not three weeks embodied.

BATTLE OF MONASTEREVAN.

CAPTAIN Haysted planted videts, sentries, &c. and the whole stood to their arms at night, every moment expecting an attack; at four o'clock he ordered the men to refresh, but not unsaddle their horses. In a few minutes a videt galloped in, with intelligence that they were coming in great force down the canal.—The infantry, under the immediate command of Lieutenant George Bagot, formed on the bank of the canal, and the cavalry in the street that runs at right angles with it. When the Insurgents came within musket shot, the infantry wheeled and presented; the Insurgents halted; the infantry recovered arms and advanced; which intimidated them so much, that the moment we opened fire they broke. Captain Haysted then led the cavalry through a road backwards to prevent them from getting into the Old Town, which he supposed

might be their intention : on this road he fell in with a second column, and cut through them, killing several and dispersing them completely. He then intended to move through the lower town, to his original situation, to support the infantry, if attacked from the Queen's-county, numbers appearing from that quarter ; but when he turned the market-house, he perceived the church-yard, which is a commanding situation, filled with their musket-men, and the street with their pike-men—he instantly called up Lieutenant John Bagot, and they rode forward, to see if it were possible to force through them. when Mr. *Garry* of Kildare, who was a principal commander, advanced, and fired a blunderbuss at them without effect ; finding they were so strong posted, they deemed it madness to charge—at this time they had set part of the town on fire. Captain Haysted led the troop a wider circuit, through another road, to their original position, fighting the whole way, and fortunately called in part of the infantry, who had pursued with considerable effect those who were broke. The fight then commenced desperately, in the main-street, and continued until twenty minutes past six, when the Insurgents ran in all directions, leaving numbers dead. We had two of our cavalry killed and one wounded, five of our infantry killed, and two of our loyal townsmen (all of whom did their duty most spiritedly) wounded ; we had also ten horses killed, and three wounded. From the testimony of several of the Insurgents, their force exceeded three thousand.

The state of the country—constant fatigue—and our garrison so weak in *number*, prevented us from interring the Insurgent dead, until Saturday at three o'clock, when sixty-eight were put under the clay. Numbers, we know, were carried off by their friends. Our men were obliged to stand to their arms night and day, until the Tuesday following, when Sir James Duff marched in from Limerick.

We have just reason to say," that though our enemies were

many who rose up against us, yet their machinations were vain ; for the Lord was our shield and buckler, and mighty deliverer."

You will be so good as to inform me when I can get your publication.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. B.

LETTER XVII.

NEWTOWN-BARRY, AUG. 12th, 1799.

SIR,

NOTHING but your repeated applications, together with the respect I entertain for you, could have induced me to attempt stating the account for which you have so entreated. Captain K. to whom you say you have written, could certainly do the subject more justice, and your publication service : however, you and the world may rely upon the following to be FACTS.

Sometime previous to the attack upon this village, we were kept in a state of alarm, in consequence of the multiplied reports respecting the Insurgents—the result was, that our (yeomenry) duty became both constant and severe. On the first of June 1798, about twelve o'clock at noon, the Insurgents (ten thousand in number) marched from Vinegar and Lacken hills against our town, fully bent upon exterminating all who should be found inimical to the system—they were descried by a reconnoitreing party headed by a gallant Capt. Keer, as they advanced on both sides of the river Slaney, led on by Doyle, priests Kearns and Redmond, &c.

BATTLE OF NEWTOWN-BARRY.

No sooner had their approach been announced, than our forces prepared to receive them. We had at this time about four hundred of the King's county militia, with two pieces of cannon; eighty of the fourth dragoons, also twenty Carlow cavalry; eighty infantry, and thirty loyalists, to oppose so great an host! "But that the battle is not to the strong," the event fully demonstrated.

The Insurgents, from an adjacent hill, commenced a brisk fire upon the town from the brass six-pounder, a howitzer, and some ship swivels, accompanied by irregular vollies of musketry; but without any effect—our position was very strong—every breast burned with ardor for an onset. This was, however, overruled for some time; and by order of Colonel L'Estrange, of the King's county militia, we retreated a small distance from the town. The Insurgents concluding we were dismayed, poured into it like a mighty torrent, from the slate quarry, and other hills. You may easily judge the effect such a scene must have had upon those among us, who had both our families, friends, and considerable property therein—all likely to suffer from the ferocity of the ruthless horde—our fears were soon confirmed, as the Insurgents instantly set fire to the suburbs, plundered the army-baggage, and were proceeding to pillage many houses, when they were most gallantly resisted by a few loyalists from different houses. A universal cry for an immediate attack now ran throughout all the ranks, and after much entreaty was complied with by C. L. It commenced by a few discharges from our cannon—this had the desired effect; it threw them into the greatest confusion, which was increased from the fierce attack we made on them and the fire from our small arms. Captain Kerr now headed a set of brave fellows, accompanied by Major Marley, who volunteered on this occasion. We charged the Insurgents up the hills, pursuing them several miles, all the way cutting them

down in great numbers. In their flight they left behind them their cannon shot, pikes, and some plunder, &c. Upwards of three hundred and fifty were killed—the first complete defeat they had experienced in the county of Wexford. Providentially, our loss was only one loyalist killed, one of Captain Cornwall's troop wounded.

The Insurgents, on entering the town, forced into several cellars, &c. where they indulged themselves with such wines and spirits, &c. as came first to hand—nor did they at all suppose they should be dispossessed. They set the Church on fire, and had it not been for our success in routing them, many innocent lives would have been forfeited.

This victory (which by some may be deemed as inconsiderable) was surely important, on the following account: *First*, it stopped their progress in their intended direction; for had they taken Newtown-Barry, it would have formed an opening for them into the counties of Carlow, Kildare, King and Queen's counties. *Secondly*, it must have clearly demonstrated to them, what a few men will perform when espousing a GOOD CAUSE; and this also should convince them that the God of armies enabled us to fight this battle. *Thirdly*, Newtown-Barry would have proved a grand *central position*—here they could have collected powerful forces from the collieries and the adjacent counties, all ripe for Insurrection. This, no doubt, induced them to attack us, previous to Ross or Arklow; for, as I have been well informed, the Insurgent plan was—immediately after their attacking Newtown-Barry, to proceed to Arklow, and thence to Dublin.

The valor of both officers and men was signally great—particularly Lieut. Col. Westenra Maj. Marlay, Capt. Kerr, of Newtown-Barry troop, and Capt. Jennings, 4th dragoons.

Having transmitted to you, Sir, nothing but stubborn facts, I subscribe myself, Your real friend and well-wisher,

R. W.

It being the Publisher's particular wish, that this work should prove perfectly correct—he has for this purpose, left no means untried to accomplish so desirable an end.

In the present PART of this NARRATIVE, it was intended to *detail* the particulars of each subsequent Battle; but for want of Correspondents in a few places (only), the accounts are stated as they appeared officially.—The honorable situations in which those Gentlemen were placed who wrote them, supersedes the necessity of attempting any thing recommendatory.

Copy of a Letter from Sir Hugh O'Reilly; Lieutenant Colonel of the Westmeath Regiment of Militia, to Lieutenant-General Sir James Stewart, at Cork.

BANDON, JUNE 20, 1798.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you, that a party of the Westmeath regiment, consisting of two hundred and twenty men, rank and file, with two six pounders (under my command), were attacked on our march from Cloghnakilty to Bandon, near a village called Ballynascarty, by the Insurgents, who took up the best position on the whole march.

The attack was made from a height on the left of our column of march, with very great rapidity, and without the least previous notice, by between three and four hundred men, as nearly as I can judge, armed mostly with pikes, and very few fire arms. We had hardly time to form, but very soon repulsed them with considerable loss, when they retreated precipitately, but not in great confusion, and when they regained the height, I could

perceive they were joined by a very considerable force. I, with the greatest difficulty and risk to the officers, restrained the men, halted and formed the greater part of them, when I saw that the enemy were filing off a high flank, with an intent to take possession of our guns.

A detachment of one hundred men of the Caithness legion, under the command of Major Innes, was on its march to replace us at Cloghnakilty, and hearing our fire, pressed forward and very critically fired upon them whilst we were forming, and made them fly in every direction with great precipitation. At the same moment, a very considerable force showed itself on the heights in our rear. A vast number of pikes appeared, some with hats upon them, and other signals, I suppose in order to collect their forces. I ordered the guns to prepare for action, and very fortunately brought them to bear upon the enemy with good effect; as they dispersed in a short time, and must have left a considerable number dead. Some were killed in attempting to carry away the dead bodies. It is impossible to ascertain the loss of the enemy, but a dragoon, who came this morning from Cloghnakilty to Bandon, reports that their loss is one hundred and thirty.

I feel most highly gratified by the conduct and spirit of the officers and men of the Westmeath regiment; and had only to complain of the too great ardor of the latter, which it was almost impossible to restrain. I cannot give too much praise to Major Innes, Captain Innes and all the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, of the Caithness legion, for their cool, steady conduct, and the very effectual support I received from them. Our loss was one Sergeant and one private.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed)

HU. O'REILY,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Westmeath regiment.

Extract of a letter from Lieutenant-General Lake, to Lord Castlereagh.

WEXFORD, JUNE 23, 1798.

MY LORD,

YESTERDAY afternoon I had the honor to dispatch a letter to your Lordship, from Enniscorthy, with the transactions of that day, for his excellency the Lord Lieutenant's information ;—and the inclosed copy of a letter from Brigadier-General Moore to Major-General Johnson, will account for my having entered this place without opposition. General Moore with his usual enterprise and activity, pushed on to his own town, and entered it so opportunely as to prevent it from being laid in ashes, and the massacre of the remaining prisoners, which the Insurgents declared their intention of carrying into execution the very next day ; and there can be little doubt, would have taken place ; for the day before, they murdered above seventy* prisoners, and threw their bodies over the bridge.

Inclosed is a copy of my answer to the proposals of the inhabitants of this town, transmitted in my letter of yesterday to your Lordship : the evacuation of the town by the Insurgents renders it unnecessary. I have the pleasure to acquaint your Lordship, that the subscriber of the insolent proposals, Mr. Keughe, and one of their principal leaders, Mr. Roache, and a few others, are in my hands without negociation.

* Recent accounts state the number to be ninety-five.

TERMS PROPOSED BY THE INSURGENTS IN THE TOWN OF WEXFORD.

"THAT Captain M'Manus shall proceed from Wexford towards Oulart, accompanied by Mr. E. Hay, appointed by the inhabitants, of all religious persuasions, to inform the officer commanding the King's troops, that they are ready to deliver up the town of Wexford without opposition, lay down their arms, and return to their allegiance, provided that their persons and properties are guaranteed by the commanding officer ; and that they will use every influence in their power to induce the people of the country at large to return to their allegiance also. These terms, we hope Captain M'Manus will be able to procure.

Signed, by order of the inhabitants of Wexford,

MATT. KEUGHE."

LIEUTENANT GENERAL LAKE'S ANSWER TO MR. KEUGHE'S PROPOSAL.

"LIEUTENANT General Lake cannot attend to any terms offered by Insurgents in arms against their Sovereign ; while they continue so, he must use the force entrusted to him, with the utmost energy, for their destruction.

To the deluded multitude he promises pardon, on their

delivering into his hands their leaders, surrendering their arms, and returning with sincerity to their allegiance.

(Signed) G. LAKE."

Enniscorthy, June 22, 1798.

Extract of a letter from Brigadier General Moore, to Major General Johnston.

CAMP ABOVE WEXFORD, JUNE, 22, 1798.

DEAR GENERAL,

AGREEABLE to your order, I took post on the evening of the 19th, near Fooke's-mill, in the park of Mr. Sutton. Next day I sent a strong detachment, under Lieutenant Colonel Wilkinson, to patrole towards Tintern and Clonmines, with a view to scour the country, and communicate with the troops you had directed to join me from Duncannon. The Lieutenant Colonel found the country deserted, and got no tidings of the troops. I waited for them until three o'clock in the afternoon, when, despairing of their arrival, I began my march to Taghmon. We had not marched above half a mile, when a considerable body of the Insurgents was perceived marching towards us. I sent my advanced guard, consisting of the two rifle companies of the 60th, to skirmish with them, whilst a howitzer and a six-pounder were advanced to a cross-road above Goff's-bridge, and some light infantry formed on each side of them, under Lieutenant-Colonel Wilkinson. The Insurgents attempted to attack these, but were instantly repulsed, and driven beyond the bridge. A large body were perceived at the same time moving towards my left. Major Aylmer, and afterwards Major Daniel, with five companies of light infantry, and a six-pounder, were detached against them.

The 60th regiment, finding no further opposition in front, had of themselves, inclined to their left, to engage the body which was attempting to turn us. The action here was for a short time pretty sharp. The Insurgents were in great numbers, and armed with both muskets and pikes. They were, however, forced to give way, and driven (though they repeatedly attempted to form) behind the ditches. They at last dispersed, flying towards Enniscorthy and Wexford. Their killed could not be ascertained, as they lay scattered in the fields, over a considerable extent; but they seemed to be numerous. The troops behaved with great spirit. The artillery, and Hompesch's cavalry, were active, and seemed only to regret that the country did not admit of their rendering more effectual service. Major Daniel is the only officer whose wound is bad; it is through the knee, but not dangerous.

The business, which began between three and four, was not over till near eight; it was then too late to proceed to Taghmon. I took post for the night on the ground where the action had commenced. As the Insurgents gave way, I was informed of the approach of the 2nd and 9th regiments, under Lord Dalhousie. In the morning of the 21st, we were proceeding to Taghmon, when I was met by an officer of the North-Cork from Wexford, with the inclosed letrs.* I gave, of course no answer to the proposal made by the inhabitants of Wexford, but I thought it my duty immediately to proceed here, and to take post above the town; by which means I have, perhaps, saved the town itself from fire, as well as the lives† of many loyal subjects who were prisoners in the hands of the Insurgents.—The Insurgents fled upon my approach, over the bridge of Wexford, and towards the barony of Forth.

I received your penciled note during the action of the 20th;

* For these letters see page 89.

† The particulars are given in PART FIRST.

it was impossible for me then to detach the troops you asked for, but I hear you have succeeded at Enniscorthy with those you had. Your presence speedily is, upon every account, necessary.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

JOHN MOORE.

LETTER XVIII.

KELLS, AUGUST 14, 1798.

SIR,

ON receipt of your first letter, it was my determination to state for your publication, the particulars of the engagement you so much desired, from the journal I kept. They will be found perfectly accurate, and are as follows :—

In the month of May 1798, Captain Molloy, of the Upper Kells infantry, held the arduous situation of commanding officer at Kells in the county of Meath. On the 24th he received the following letter by express from Navan.

THOLSEL OF NAVAN, MAY 24, 1798, 5 o'clock.

SIR,

A PRIVATE soldier of Captain Gorge's yeomenry, came here about an hour since, and gave us the following account :— "That an escort conveying baggage to Dublin, were met on the road leading to Dublin and near Dunboyne, by a body of Insurgents—that an attack commenced between them in which the military were worsted, and every man of the escort killed."

It is generally apprehended that the Insurgents are on their march to this town, having planted the *Tree of Liberty* at Dunshaughlin ; it is therefore requested that you will be pleased to send immediately such a detachment as you can spare here to assist and protect us. We are, Sir, with much respect your most obedient servants.

JOHN PRESTON, Captain,
PHILIP BARRY, Lieut. of
the Navan cavalry,
F. D. HAMILTON, Portrieve.

To the Officer commanding the garrison at Kells.

On receipt of the above, the yeomen cavalry and infantry immediately marched off to Navan. There being no appearance of disturbance at that time in the neighborhood, Captain Molloy thought it prudent immediately to return to Kells where there was no protection for the inhabitants, and also a *depot* of ammunition in the town, which particularly demanded his attention : the force in Navan was very inconsiderable, consisting only of the Navan troop. A council of war was called, wherein it was determined that the Kells cavalry, with a detachment of the Navan troop, should go forward towards Dunshaughlin, and reconnoitre the county. On the 25th, the following express arrived from Navan at Kells.

NAVAN, MAY 25, 1798.

SIR,

PREPARE your yeomenry immediately, as an insurrection has appeared from Dublin to Dunshaughlin, and numbers have been murdered. Communicate this to all the other officers.

Yours, &c.

THOMAS BARRY, Lieutenant.

CAPTAIN MOLLOY, KELLS.

This evening two of the Kells cavalry came in express, and brought an account of their seeing the Insurgent army near Dunshaughlin, on the Dublin side, in great force. Captain Molloy ordered the men who came express to return to their corps, and keep up the communication with Kells, and at the same time sent express to Captain Tatlo, of the Bally-jamesduff yeomen-infantry, who arrived in Kells at two o'clock, the morning of the 26th, with his corps.

Precisely at 3 o'clock the same morning, the Upper Kells infantry marched off their parade resolved to conquer or die—they passed early over Tara. Near Killeen they overtook a party of the Reay fencibles, on their route to Dublin commanded by Captain Scobie, and also the Upper Kells cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Rothwell, with other corps of yeomen-cavalry—this body arrived at Dunshaughlin about eight o'clock in the forenoon. The country seemed alive with Insurgents—individuals running from one point to another, but so cautiously and at such a distance, that they could not be intercepted. At that time it was not known where the main body of the Insurgents were. Two days preceding this, they entered the town of Dunshaughlin, in great force; and in the house of the Rev. Mr. Nelson, murdered him, his brother-in-law Mr. Pentland, and a gardiner, who was a protestant. They also made a prisoner of Mr. Kellett, of the King's arms; Mr. Ambrose Sharman, attorney with others; one of whom they also murdered (Mr. Fletcher) the remainder escaped.

The yeomen's spirits were this day differently affected—at one time elated, hoping to be led on to action—at another depressed; as Captain Scobie determined not to look for the Insurgents, but should he meet them on his route would attack them, but not otherwise—his orders were to proceed directly for Dublin. For which purpose, he did actually move out of Dunshaughlin, and Captain Molloy resolving not to remain in an enemy's country with so small a body of his corps, determined to return to Kells that day; and had returned out of Dunshaughlin a quarter of a mile for that purpose, but being followed by a friend, was advised not to proceed, as there was a report that the Insurgents were then encamped on *Tara-Hill* in great force, which induced Captain Molloy to form the resolution of overtaking the Reay fencibles, and accompany them to Dublin; but as the yeomen had advanced to the upper end of Dunshaughlin, they had the happiness to see the Reay fencibles returning, with whom they marched and took the field without the town, where the whole regiment remained on their arms till three o'clock that evening; when an officer, who proved to be Captain Blanch of the above regiment, on his return from Dublin, entered the field with orders it was said to fight the Insurgents where they could be come up with. On his appearance the men gave three cheers, and were highly animated: they were ordered refreshment, of which the yeomen equally partook. Three companies of the Reay regiment only, and Captain Molloy's yeomen corps, not amounting to more than one hundred and ninety infantry, with one piece of artillery, were ordered on this expedition, with six troops of yeomen-cavalry: these troops were placed equally on the right and left of the infantry, in which order, they marched from Dunshaughlin to *Tara* about five miles.

Before they arrived at Mr. Linch's house of *Tara*, they perceived the Insurgent videts, both horse and foot, who immediately wheeled off to their main body, when they perceived the army advancing. On arriving at the large fort at Mr. Lynch's the army got in full view of the Insurgent camp on the hill of *Tara*; the fields around appeared black with Insurgents. On perceiving the army, they instantly got into motion—their chiefs mounted, and in about ten minutes formed their line, which was extended very far, and very deep, with three pair of green colors.

The Insurgents availed themselves of a most excellent posi-

tion,—the church-yard of *Tara*, surrounded by a wall, which commanded the Dublin road. At this period, that spirited officer, Captain Blanch, called the yeomen infantry officers to him, and informed them he had no orders to give, except to lead on their divisions with courage to the action.

BATTLE OF TARA.

And now commenced an engagement, as eventful for the county of Meath as ever took place therein, and perhaps for the kingdom at large; for had the Insurgents succeeded, their numbers would, from partial advantages, have increased, and in the end, very many would have fallen victims to those sanguinary tribes.—But the Divine disposer of all human events conducted our army to, and secured us victory in this battle. It is our part to return him our continued thanks for the fate of that day.

The Insurgents, upon the approach of the infantry, put their hats* on their pikes the entire length of their line, and gave three cheers. A person now advanced from their line towards the army (who seemed to assume the command) made a very pompous salute, and returned back with great precipitation—he was dressed in white, was a deserter from the Kildare militia, but imposed himself on many of the Insurgents for a *Frenchman*, which gave the deluded wretches great spirits.

* From concurring accounts, it appears that the *Insurgent plan* was uniformly adhered to—viz. to annoy the *royal troops* by driving among them such cattle, &c. as they could collect—by endeavoring to dismay them by means of their shouts, and their hats placed on their pikes;—also when engaged, by exertions to seize the cannon—but what stratagem, what force could have succeeded in such a cause?

It was half past six o'clock when the action commenced—immediately some of the army lay dead, from the fire of the Insurgents. The six-pounder was on the right, from which there were many discharges, but impeded by obstacles between the road and church-yard; to obtain the church-yard was the grand object—the little loyal party advanced, regardless of danger, notwithstandiug the frantic impetuosity and number of Insurgents who attempted to turn them on each flank, and incessantly came down in strong parties, from the church-yard, to the muzzles of their pieces, pike in hand; but they instantly experienced the result of their temerity, with the loss of their lives—not one of the royalists flinched, though his brother in arms and dearest friend fell by his side. The conflict continued from the period above mentioned (half past six,) until dark, when they gallantly entered the church-yard! The Insurgents now fled from their strong post, and were pursued with great slaughter. At this time the cannon was unemployed at the church-yard gate, when a large column of the Insurgents appeared on the road, with intent to surround and cut off a small party of the yeomen who had taken possession of the church-yard: Captain Molloy commanded three artillery-men, who remained with the gun, to take it to the road; but he was informed their gunner was killed—upon his assisting they immediately obeyed. The gun was no sooner placed, than the Insurgents were at the muzzle; a number actually had their hands on it—the gun being fired made very great carnage. The unexpected discharge gave them a very great check—they still persisted to seize it; for which purpose they collected from all points, and made a lodgement behind a wall adjoining the road, which turned to Mr. Brabazon's, from whence they commenced a heavy fire, providentially without effect.

Captain Molloy had now ordered that the cannon should not fire till he gave the word. This encouraged the Insurgents

to advance (supposing the ammunition was exhausted,) they were permitted to come forward in prodigious force, greatly elated; but Captain Molloy here evinced both the wisdom, coolness, and valor of an experienced General, and patiently waited till he had the enemy in such a situation as to do great execution; when he ordered the cannon to fire. This being a few times repeated, determined the fate of the day. In a few minutes not an Insurgent was to be seen. Their loss was very considerable. Twenty-six of the Reay fencibles were killed and wounded—one of the Upper Kells infantry killed, and five wounded.

The cavalry had not an opportunity of acting this day (except individually) the country being so close, and the Insurgents so strongly posted: Lord Fingall behaved with great spirit and acted as bravely as circumstances would admit, having led on the Navan troop; as also Captain Barnes, who commanded the Lower Kells troop, &c.

The army retired to Dunshaughlin without further interruption, amidst the joyful acclamations of the loyal inhabitants.

Next morning there were some troops sent out to reconnoitre the field of battle, who on their return reported there lay dead on the field, three hundred and fifty of the Insurgents; many car loads of arms were found, of different descriptions, viz. pikes, muskets, fowling-pieces, pistols, swords, scythes, and reaping-hooks on poles, spits, pitchforks, &c. also three boxes of ammunition, taken from a party of the Reay regiment two days before at Clonee bridge; of whom they killed seven, and took the remainder prisoners (twenty in number,) and all the baggage they were escorting to Dublin—the prisoners were retaken at Tara.

Upon the return of the yeomenry to Kells, they were met by a multitude of the loyal inhabitants—welcomed—embraced—the tear of joy sensibly trickled down the cheek of the parent, the sister, the friend—the commanding officer was presented

with a laurel wreath ornamented with ribands, prepared by the principal people in the neighborhood. On entering the town of Kells, a groupe of the ladies surrounded Captain Molloy, one of whom crowned him with a laurel—the windows were decorated with emblems of victory—the bells rang—an elegant collation was laid out opposite the boarding school, under the shade of some large sycamore-trees—the evening was devoted to mirth and joy—age and youth vied in loyal and convivial harmony.

Were I to recount the brave conduct of each yeoman individually, it would no doubt be grateful to the reader; but time and circumstances not permitting, oblige me to decline it. The officers of the Kells corps deserve every compliment this county can give; Lieutenant Keating and Warner, conducted themselves with that spirit and bravery which ever distinguishes the brave soldier—and as for Captain Molloy, the result of that day will ever keep him in the recollection of his friends and acquaintance.

P. S. To the memory of the brave men who fell in the field, the corps are erecting a handsome monument at Kells, with a suitable epitaph.

Thus, Sir, have I particularized every thing I supposed in any wise interesting—and am with great respect,

Yours, &c. &c.

CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO THE AFFAIRS OF THE NORTH.

THE affairs of the Northern parts of this Kingdom having been ingeniously epitomised by a very intelligent Gentleman (a resident in Belfast,) and transmitted to the Editor—he inserts every sentence of the same, from a conviction, that should any part undergo alterations, the whole would most certainly suffer thereby.

This correspondent, very politely, gives such permission, but surely those who are, or desire in the least to be, acquainted with the rise and progress of the IRISH REBELLION of 1798, will readily concur with the Editor, that no occurrence tending to portray and expose the *concerted measures*, of the enemies of the Constitution, should be considered as too minutely described.

LETTER XIX.

BELFAST, SEPT. 3, 1798.

SIR,

You have at length the promised sketch, which it was absolutely out of my power to have done sooner; and which now that I send it, you will think, perhaps, unnecessarily *minute*.--

But, however, you will observe, I leave you the most *absolute* liberty to *prune* away and to *condense* as you think proper—and do really wish you on *no account* to retain a single line you may judge superfluous or unnecessary.

When the work is finished, please intimate the same to

Your Obedient, Servant.

AFFAIRS OF THE NORTH.

Let us now turn our attention towards the NORTH—a part of the kingdom it was supposed there was most peculiar reason to dread; as well from the sturdy character of its inhabitants, as from its early attachment to *French* principles, and being the quarter in which the system of *United Iricism* had originated, which had afterwards spread so very generally over the whole kingdom.

It may not be here improper to observe, that so far back as September 1796, several persons were arrested in Belfast, as well as other parts of the North; and that it was in March 1797, General Lake, who commanded the Northern district, issued from Belfast his proclamation (which made so much noise,) for the bringing in of arms, ammunition, &c.—arrests occasionally taking place up to the period we are now treating of; a little before which General Nugent had succeeded General Lake in the command.

The news of the burning the Northern mail coach, was received in Belfast early on Friday morning, the 25th of May, and of course, excited very considerable alarm—but it was not till next morning it was generally understood the rebellion

had actually broke out, and that the burning of the mail-coaches was the *concerted signal* of insurrection. Numbers of the inhabitants, who had not hitherto been members of any yeomenry corps, made an immediate offer of their services to General Nugent; in consequence of which, two supplementary corps, of sixty men each, were formed and almost immediately completed—to be clothed at their own expense, and to receive nothing from government but arms and accoutrements. Indeed, such numbers pressed forward to be enrolled, as would have completed several companies more, had the General thought proper to accept of all who offered on the occasion. However, the four old companies as well as the troop of cavalry were strongly augmented; while arms were put into the hands of a number of loyal and well-affected persons, who did duty along with the military—and many of the more wealthy inhabitants, who were prevented by age or infirmity from taking a more active part, subscribed largely towards the better supporting the families of those in the yeomenry, who, when on permanent duty, had little but their pay to depend on.

On Sunday forenoon, martial-law was proclaimed in town by sound of trumpet, and the inhabitants forbidden from appearing in the streets after nine at night, or before six in the morning. In the course of the ensuing week a number of persons were taken up, and either committed to the provost, or sent on board the prison-ship in the harbor: while several who were strongly suspected to be well acquainted with what was going on, were publicly whipped—in order to extort confession. Another proclamation respecting bringing in arms, &c. was issued by the General—soon after which a very general search took place in town—almost every house was examined—notwithstanding which, the number of arms procured was very inconsiderable—partly from the numbers already given up, in consequence of the former proclamations, and from many, no doubt, having concealed them; not so much,

perhaps, on the principle of disloyalty, as of defending themselves against ruffians of any description.

About this time, two of the four brass field-pieces, formerly belonging to the Belfast Volunteers, were found buried in a back-yard off one of the principal streets—they had eluded every search that had been made about them for above five years, and very probable even then would not have been discovered, but for the threats of the General against the persons in whose custody they were known about that time to have been--when in consequence of a paper being circulated, very generally signed by the inhabitants, pointing out the impropriety of further concealment at such a crisis, and the consequences that must result to innocent individuals, anonymous information was at length given to the General respecting them, who gave strict orders no injury should be done to the premises on which they were found. Next morning the other two pieces were found lying on the county Down shore, within half a mile of the town, and all brought in by the military, with no small marks of exultation.

Monday the fourth of June, being the King's birth-day, the regulars, together with the yeomenry-corps, fired three *feu de joies* in the main-street—in the evening the most general and brilliant illumination took place ever known there; when, very much to the credit of the General, the troops were all kept in barrack till between nine and ten o'clock, when the entire garrison, horse, foot, artillery with their cannon, and yeomenry marched through the principal streets. The inhabitants upon this occasion were indulged with liberty of walking about till ten o'clock, when not the slightest irregularity was committed either on one side or the other. Indeed, were an opinion to be formed of Belfast from the behavior of its inhabitants upon that day, at its *feu de joies*, and during the illuminations, a more loyal town scarcely could have been found in his Majesty's dominions.

Nothing material occurred till Thursday, the seventh of June, when a very general alarm was excited, from the General having received undoubted information that a rising would that day take place in the county of Antrim: the object of which was, among other things, to sieze upon the magistrates, who were to meet in the town of Antrim, to consider on what measures should be adopted for the peace of the Country. The barriers were closed early in the morning, several persons were arrested, and no person suffered to leave the town—though no one was prevented from coming into it. The General had early in the morning directed Colonel Clevering of the Argyleshire, who commanded at Blairs camp, about nine miles from Belfast, to proceed immediately to Antrim, with a detachment of his own regiment and of the 22nd dragoons, with two pieces of artillery. About eleven o'clock, detachments from the Monaghan, Fifeshire, 22d dragoons, and Belfast cavalry, with two pieces of cannon, making in all about four hundred men, under the command of Colonel Durham of the Fifeshire, marched also from Belfast to Antrim, where Colonel Clavering's detachment had arrived some time; the cavalry of which had made an unsuccessful attack on the Insurgents who had got possession of the town, in which Colonel Lumley was wounded, &c. &c.

After giving the troops some time to refresh themselves, and coolly reconnoitreing the position of the Insurgents, a general attack was made on all points, when they were soon routed; abandoning two curricle guns they had taken on getting possession of the town, as also a brass gun of their own, mounted on a car, which they had fired several times during the action. They were pursued with considerable slaughter towards Shane's castle and Randalstown—in which last mentioned place, a number of houses were set fire to, belonging to people implicated in the rebellion. Some few feeble attempts were afterwards made, on that and the next day, at Larne,

Ballycastle, and Ballimena, but they were soon put down. The Insurgents in this county appearing immediately afterwards wavering and dispirited; deserting their camps (as their places of assemblage were called,) and throwing away or bringing in their arms to the nearest civil or military magistrates, with the strongest marks of sorrow and repentance, the detachment from Belfast came into town next day about three o'clock.

Information being by this time received, that a general rising was on the point of taking place in the county of Down, and that a considerable number were already assembled near Saintfield, ten miles from Belfast, General Nugent directed Colonel Stapleton, of the York fencibles who lay with his regiment at Newtown-Ards, six miles from Belfast, and about eight from Saintfield, to march immediately to attack them before they gathered further strength. The Colonel accordingly left Newtown-Ards early next morning, Saturday the 9th, with his regiment, its two battalion guns, and accompanied by the Comber and Newtown-Ards cavalry—the baggage of the regiment having been previously sent to Belfast. When they had proceeded within about a mile of Saintfield, on a most uncommonly hot day, and the country through which they marched, in a great measure deserted, they fell in with a man on the road, very probably thrown in their way on purpose, who informed the commanding officer, that the Insurgents were straggling about; were under no sort of order; many of them drunk in the streets; and that they would never dare face the King's troops. This may be presumed to have put them something off their guard—be that as it may, two or three of the yeomenry-cavalry did actually go on a gallop to the end of the town, and returned without seeing the appearance of any thing hostile, of course they renewed their march with confidence, not dreaming of the enemy they fought being so near, until they came to a part of the road where there was a number of

trees on each side; when, in an instant, the yeomen-cavalry and light company, who formed the advanced guard, were opened upon from behind the ditches by a very heavy fire of musketry; the pikes at the same time darted across the road, by which, in a very short time, they suffered exceedingly, both in killed and wounded; the main body too, was thrown into confusion—but having at length got their cannon into a good position, where they were of the most signal service indeed, they succeeded instantly and completely in repulsing the Insurgents; who went off, after sustaining much loss. Night appearing, the Colonel did not think proper to proceed to Saintfield, which was in the very heart of the country supposed most particularly disaffected—he therefore fell back to Comber, where the troops rested that night, and came into Belfast the forenoon of the next day, having suffered most severely from fatigue and the extreme heat of the weather.

This day, Sunday the 10th, the spirit of insurrection appearing not at all to be checked; but rather gaining ground in the county of Down, numbers of people from the country crowded into Belfast, Lisburn, Down-patrick, &c. as to places of greater security. Belfast at this time, presented the appearance of a place in a state of siege—parties of horse and foot continually passing and repassing—the avenues to the town strongly guarded—cannon placed in the principal streets, and three pieces planted on the very long bridge that separates Belfast from the county of Down.—In short, every precaution was taken that prudence could suggest, to give the Insurgents a warm reception, had they been rash enough to attack the town; but they never once approached it.

On Monday, the 11th of June, the county Antrim people continuing to bring in their arms, and appearing completely sensible of their folly, the General issued a proclamation, addressed to the county of Down, calling on them to follow the example of their brethren in the county of Antrim, by bring-

ing in their arms, giving up their leaders, and returning to their allegiance—in which case promising them pardon and protection, giving them twenty-four hours to consider of it. This proclamation was sent through the country by patroles, as generally as the then unhappy state of the country would admit; but such was the infatuation of the people, that it was spurned at with contempt; so that it soon became evident the sword only could bring them to reason. Preparations were accordingly made for that purpose; and next morning about ten o'clock, the weather being still more uncommonly warm, the General left Belfast, at the head of the Monaghan and Fifeshire regiments, about one hundred and thirty of the 22d dragoons, with six pieces of cannon and two howitzers, and proceeded to Saintfield, where the Insurgents were collecting in great force. The York fencibles proceeded at the same time to Comber, where they remained, to act as circumstances might require—and here, sir, I would refer you to the account forwarded by General Nugent to Government of this day's business. *

DUBLIN CASTLE, 11 O'CLOCK, A. M. JUNE 14th, 1795.

INTELLIGENCE is just arrived from Major General Nugent, stating, that on the 11th instant, he had marched against a large body of Insurgents, who were posted at Saintfield. They retired on his approach, to a strong position on the Saintfield side of Ballynahinch, and there made a shew of resistance, and endeavored to turn his left flank; but Lieutenant Colonel

* This had been published officially.

Stewart arriving from Down, with a pretty considerable force of infantry, cavalry, and yeomenry, they soon desisted, and retired to a very strong position behind Ballynahinch.

General Nugent attacked them the next morning, at three o'clock, having occupied two hills on the left and right of the town, to prevent the Insurgents from having any other choice than the mountains in their rear for their retreat; he sent Lieutenant Colonel Stewart to post himself with a part of the Argyle fencibles, and some yeomenry, as well as a detachment of the 22d light dragoons, in a situation from whence he could enfilade the Insurgent line, whilst Colonel Leslie, with part of the Monaghan militia, some cavalry, and yeomen infantry, should make an attack upon their front. Having two howitzers and six six-pounders with the two detachments, the Major-General was enabled to annoy them very much, from different parts of his position.

The Insurgents attacked, impetuously, Colonel Leslie's detachment, and even jumped into the road from the Earl of Moira's demesne, to endeavor to take one of his guns; but they were repulsed with slaughter. Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart's detachment was attacked by them with the same activity but he repulsed them also, and the fire from his howitzer and six-pounder soon obliged them to fly in all directions. Their force was, on the evening of the 12th, near five thousand.

About four hundred Insurgents were killed in the attack and retreat, and the remainder were dispersed all over the country. Major General Nugent states, that both officers and men deserve praise, for their zeal and alacrity on this, as well as all occasions; but he particularly expresses his obligations to Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, for his advice and assistance throughout the business, and to Colonel Leslie, for his readiness to volunteer the duty at all times. The yeomenry behaved with extreme steadiness and bravery. Three or four green colors were taken, and six one pounders, not

mounted, but which the Insurgents fired very often, and a considerable quantity of ammunition. Their chief was Munro, * a shopkeeper of Lisbon.

Major-General Nugent regrets the loss of Captain Evatt, of the Monaghan militia: Lieutenant Ellis of the same regiment was wounded, the loss of rank and file was five killed, and fourteen wounded. Several of the yeomen-infantry were killed or wounded.

In the mean time, detachments from the Tay fencibles at Carrickfurgus, and the Argyleshire at blairs, marched in, and in conjunction with the loyal inhabitants, took charge of the town. Immediately on the troops marching out orders were issued to shut up every house and shop; sentries were placed at the end of every street, and no one upon any account to appear in the streets but those to whom the care of the town was committed; precautions thought necessary to be taken lest any thing improper should be attempted in so critical a moment, in the absence of so considerable a part of the garrison: every thing, however, continued perfectly tranquil, both in the town and neighborhood, as well then as during the whole time of the rebellion. In this state, so exceedingly awful and interesting to the inhabitants, anxiously waiting the event actuated by various, and no doubt, in many cases, by very opposite sensations, the town remained until the forenoon of next day, when news arriving of the King's troops being completely victorious, the restrictions were taken off.

General Nugent, with the troops, returned to Belfast, about

* He was afterwards hanged.

four in the afternoon of Wednesday, bringing along with them six small iron guns, and several green standards taken from the Insurgents; and were received in town with the strongest demonstrations of joy. That evening, the Lancashire regiment of dragoons, which had that day landed at Carrickfurgus from Scotland; came into town—a day or two after the arrival of the Lancashire, the Sutherland fencibles, one thousand strong, also arrived from Scotland; both arrivals giving no small confidence to the loyal and peaceable inhabitants.

After the affair of Ballynahinch, the Insurgents were completely dispersed, never afterwards appearing in any part of the North. Great numbers were taken up, among whom were many of their leaders; some were transported, others had permission given of going with their families to America, and not a few suffered the punishment of death. While humanity cannot but feel for the many who forfeited their lives on the occasion, it will be acknowledged, at least by the moderate and the impartial, that no inconsiderable portion of lenity was shewn; and that fewer executions took place, evey thing considered, than might have been expected—perhaps a smaller number than, under similar circumstances, would have been the case under any other government in Europe, for surely blood has not been the characteristic of Cornwallis.

It has no doubt been matter of some surprise to many, that the efforts of the North, which had been so much and so long spoken of, should have been so feeble, and of such duration—as the rebellion was completely extinguished there within a single week after it broke out.

The number of persons who joined the societies of United Irishmen in the North, was no doubt very considerable indeed; but their motives were very different, and their numbers no doubt much exaggerated, for very obvious reasons. It is a fact, however, well ascertained, many became members from policy—from fear—from persuasion—from motives of private interest,

and not a few of those who became so with cordiality, never conceived the object to be beyond a parliamentary reform—of course, from those of this description, no cordial co-operation could be given.

The precautions then taken by government, so far back as the year 1793, in preventing the importation of arms and ammunition—the number of persons who were disarmed—the early arrest and close confinement of so many of their leaders—and the repeated disappointment in the expected succors from France, must have altogether tended exceedingly to cool and to embarrass. Besides which, the oppressive and tyrannical conduct of the French; particularly of late, towards those countries who had received them with open arms, and to whom they had promised *liberty* and *peace* had caused a very considerable change among the sensible and thinking part of the community; who began at length to imagine, they might, possibly, not act towards Ireland with a greater degree of disinterestedness. Be that as it may, when the rebellion did break out, the people in general were not so hearty in the cause as they would very probably have been some years before. And what, perhaps, contributed more than any other thing to prevent any further attempts, was, the horrid cruelties committed by the Catholics, particularly in the county of Wexford; which induced numbers of the Presbyterians to imagine, were they even to carry their point, the business would be but half done, and that they would have to fight the battle out again with them—a supposition strongly sanctioned by the dying declaration of *Dickey* an Insurgent leader, who was executed at Belfast in June, 1798.

May this land never again witness a repetition of such distressful scenes! And may what has already past make a deep impression on the minds of both *governors* and *governed*;—upon the owners of the soil and the useful cultivators of the land—teaching the one to pay every just attention to the fair

and reasonable wishes of the people, and to meliorate, as much as possible, the situation of ther tenantry (and much, much indeed of the future tranquility of the country, depends on a proper attention to this point)—and upon the other hand, teaching the people not to be foolishly carried away by visionary and romantic ideas of perfection, that never have, and never can be realized in any government on the face of the earth.

LETTER XX.

HACKET'S-TOWN, SEPTEMBER 12, 1799.

SIR,

HAVING been requested to give an account of the tremenduous battle of Hacket's-town, on the 25th of June 1798, which has never yet appeared in print, I send it to you, and you may rely on its authenticity, as I had it from a person who was on the spot, and in whose words I give it to you.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

W. B.

On Sunday, the 17th of June, the Insurgents, with Garret Byrne of Ballymanus, at their head, were proceeding to attack the town of Hacket's-town,* and had resolved to commence the operations early on the 18th; in order to which, they halted about four miles distant, on a hill near the village of Tinabely, called Mount Pleasant, from whence they resolved to proceed next morning at day break. Having several pieces of artillery, the garrison would have been an easy prey to them, had it not been for the interference of Divine Providence. The troops in the neighborhood had began to march from their respective quarters, in order, as was supposed, to surround and entirely cut off the Insurgent forces. In consequence of this motion, General Dundas marched with his brigade into the town, about two o'clock, and had scarcely alighted from his horse, when information was brought that the Insurgent forces had taken possession of Mount Pleasant, and were destroying Tinabely. He immediately ordered Lord Roden, with his fine regiment, Captains Wainwright and Hume, with their yeomen cavalry, to go and reconnoitre; and several corps of infantry to cover their reatreat, in case they should be attacked and overpowered by numbers. As soon as the reconnoitreing parts came tolerably near them, the Insurgents fired some cannon shot on which Lord Roden sent to General Dundas for orders, who desired the parties immediately to retreat into the town. On the retreat of the troops, the Insurgents fell back to Kilcaven-hill within two miles of Carnew, where they seemed resolved to await the event of a battle.

On Monday, the 18th, General Dundas's brigade was under arms at three o'clock in the morning, and marched at four. General Loftus and his brigade also marched from Tullow,

* The reader is referred to PART FIRST, for an account of the first attack at Hacket's-town.

and joined General Dundas a Coolattin, about two miles and a half from the hill. The troops had just got within cannon shot, when General Lake and his suite arrived, and shortly after, they advanced in column to attack the Insurgents, who were very advantageously posted on the summit of a very high hill (Kilcavan) which commanded a great tract of country.

BATTLE OF KILCAVAN-HILL.

The troop began by firing a few large guns but without effect, insomuch that when the third gun was discharged, the Insurgents gave three cheers, and then began to open a smart fire on his Majesty's forces; and had not the column which began the attack been ordered into line, before the Insurgents began to fire, there must have been many lives lost—for their first shot would have raked the column from the front to the rear; and did actually plough up the ground which had not been a minute receded from by the troops. A party then, with a howitzer, got somewhat on their flank, and threw in a few shells, which did some mischief; and there were a few shots of small arms exchanged, but without very great effect.—After which, General Lake thought it prudent to retire to Carnew for the night, during which the Insurgents evacuated the hill, and retreated to Vinegar-hill—to concentre them at which place, and to cut them totally off, seemed to be the desire and intention of the commanders.

After halting at Carnew the 19th, the troops advanced towards Vinegar-hill; the result of which, is too well known to require repetition; I can only say, that the Insurgents being allowed to escape that day from Vinegar-hill, was the cause of

incalculable mischief to the country; for after their escape they did not consider that they were *allowed* to get off, in hopes that they would be brought to a sense of their situation, and induced to return to their allegiance, but immediately began to undertake new plans of mischief. And therefore, Garret Byrne, collected all his forces at the Seven Churches, on the 22nd of June, to attack the town of Hacket's town; which was a post of great consequence, as it was the key between the counties Wicklow and Carlow; and being possessed of that, they would have had great advantages, did they but know how to avail themselves of them. Accordingly, on Sunday morning, the 24th, the Insurgent army, amounting to upwards of thirteen thousand men, (of whom there were eleven hundred armed with fire-locks, and the remainder with pikes) marched forward to attack the town, and at five o'clock on Monday the 25th, in the morning appeared within a mile of it. On the 24th in the evening, some of the loyalists came into the town, reporting that the Insurgents were on their march; and there were expresses instantly sent off to beg assistance from all the gentlemen commanding yeomenry corps in the neighborhood—in consequence of which, Captain and Lieutenant Chamney, with thirty men; Lieutenant Braddell and about thirty cavalry, marched in at half after five o'clock, on the 25th; so that the whole garrison, consisting of fifty Hacket's town infantry, under the command of Captain Hardy; thirty Antrim militia, under Lieutenant Gardiner, thirty Shillelagh cavalry, under Lieutenant Braddell; forty Talbot's town cavalry, under Captain Hume; and thirty Shillelagh infantry, under Captain Chamney, paraded a quarter before six, and marched out to meet the Insurgents.

BATTLE OF HACKET'S-TOWN.

When they came within musket-shot, the garrison began the attack; but such was the numbers of Insurgents that, they filed off in different directions to surround his Majesty's forces which obliged the two corps of cavalry to retreat. After the departure of the cavalry, the infantry, amounting in all to one hundred and twenty men, retreated into the barracks, resolved to sell their lives as dearly as possible.

In this retreat, poor Captain Hardy received a ball, which broke his thigh, and some of the yeomen fell; the Insurgents entered into the town in all directions, set fire to every house but one by the special orders of Garret Byrne, and threw the gallant but unfortunate Hardy, still alive into the flames, by which a most valuable life was lost to his country and friends, and a considerable sum of money, which he carried about him, was lost to his family.

The Rev. Mr. Magee, a most decided active magistrate, had with a few loyalists thrown themselves into a house, which stood on an eminence, and completely flanked the barracks; in this house Mr. Fenton, Lieutenant of Mr. Hume's cavalry, was confined by a severe fall he got a few days before, in charging the Insurgents: Mrs. Magee and her children; Mrs. Fenton and her children; and many others, who had fled thither for protection, were assembled;—fortunately there were some powder and three muskets in the house, and Mr. Magee and the loyalists made every preparation for a spirited and vigorous defence.

At five in the morning, the attack commenced, and the Insurgents proceeded to the barracks; they met a most warm reception from the troops, and from the fire of two excellent marksmen (who had thrown themselves into the house, through a desire of assisting their neighbor, Mr. Fenton,) and who by taking the Insurgents flank, threw them into great disorder:

but such was their numbers, fresh forces, still poured down, and the battle raged with unceasing fury, until 2 o'clock, the Insurgents constantly throwing their wounded men into the burning houses, caused a horrid stench. At length the Insurgents perceived that whilst *this house* was occupied they had no chance of succeeding against the barracks ; they, therefore, deserted their attack on the barracks, and solely directed it against what might be termed FORT MAGEE. The noted *Reynolds*, who had commenced at the attack of Naas, lead, on horseback, a desperate party to the rear of the house, whilst another approached the front, under cover of a horse and car with a heap of beds. Immediately Mr. Magee had the roof of the house stripped, and got the marksmen in the upper story, who then overlooked the Insurgents who were behind the beds, and soon dispatched them : and then turning to the rear, *Reynolds* was brought to the ground, by a shot through the belly, on which the assailants of the house who had survived the attack, fled leaving the car and beds behind them, and a considerable number of slain. From this period the fire of the assailants began to slacken, but they were repeatedly rallied and brought back to certain discomfiture, until seven o'clock when they finally retreated, first butchering every loyalist (man, woman and child) they met.

The heroic courage displayed by two ladies the wife* and daughter of Lieutenant Fenton, deserves particular notice. He had struggled out of bed to a chair where he spent the day making cartridges, whilst his wife and daughter (a beautiful girl) were encouraging, by their conduct, their few but gallant defenders ; and when their ammunition began to fail, these ladies melted down some pewter into balls, and were almost constantly administering meat, wine and water to the poor fellows, who were exhausted with fatigue and thirst from the

* Sister to Captain Rawson of the Athy loyalists.

flame of the adjacent houses, and the smoke constantly driving in at the windows. The two principal marksmen in the house were men of a very religious cast, and they never fired a shot without some pious ejaculation, which appeared to be accepted by Providence ; as they never pulled a trigger without good effect ; frequently, with the pewter bullets, bringing down *four* and *five* at a time ! The whole of this wonderful defence was conducted from the house, without a drop of blood being spilled, save a slight wound in the face, which Mrs. Fenton's father (Mr. Rawson) received. The conduct of Lieutenant Gardiner, and the brave men under his command, is above all praise ; and they also escaped with a very trifling loss.

When the Insurgents retreated, the garrison considered it would be imprudent to continue longer in their present situation : it was then determined to march for Tullow, (eight miles) but the difficulty was the removal of Lieutenant Fenton. Here the finger of Divine Providence appeared very conspicuous ; for, but for the *house* and *beds*, (no other being to be had,) he could not be removed.

Worn down with fatigue, their properties all destroyed, but with hearts overflowing with gratitude to the Great Disposer of events, for their wonderful deliverance, the loyalists, men, women and children, arrived safe at Tullow, where they experienced every comfort the liberal inhabitants could bestow.

In the house with the loyalists, during the whole of the engagement, were the wives of Garret Byrne and of the Insurgent General Perry. Brave souls will always be generous—they were treated with every attention and respect.

The discomfited Insurgents next day burned the barracks and stores, and laid waste the houses of the loyalists for many miles round. Lieutenant Fenton's house and large property were entirely destroyed.

Few events, in the course of the Rebellion, ought to make the loyalists more confirmed in their adoration of the Supreme

Being, whose strong arm, has, in this extraordinary instance, showed the wicked, that "the battle is not to the strong." And it should convince the rebellious, that while their works are evil, they will never meet success. *May the loyalists endeavor to secure a continuation of such wonderful interventions of Providence in their favor.*

LETTER XXI.

RATHANGAN, SEPT. 12, 1799.

SIR,

As you have not been so fortunate as to procure the particulars of Rathangan, I send you a brief statement.

The late Mr. Spencer, who commanded the *Rathangan* yeomenry, was unfortunate in appointing a Mr. Molloy Lieutenant of his corps, a Roman Catholic and an Insurgent, who was hanged for the active part he took at Rathangan, and whose influence had the most baneful effect, in seducing from their allegiance the principal part of the cavalry.—I mention this, to account for the poor support Mr. Spencer received from his corps.

On Saturday, the 26th of May, his house was attacked by a numerous banditti, headed by Captain Darley (a tenant of his own,) and every promise of safety held out if he would surrender; but the instant the doors were opened the villains rushed in, and murdered him and three loyal protestants. The rest of the people, being Roman Catholics, were not injured in the least. They then marched with great exultation to the town of Rathangan, bringing Mrs. Spencer with them, and

immediately held out the same false promises to Captain Moore, (who had taken refuge with part of the infantry, who were loyal, in his house) and unfortunately succeeded—he judging of them from his own honest good heart. A thousand oaths they swore, that not a hair of their heads should be injured; if they gave up their arms and surrendered; but the moment they opened the door they were seized, and with most violent execrations all murdered in the street;—poor Mrs. Spencer, and Mrs. Moore; in short, all the unfortonate females of the town looking on at the dreadful butchery of their husbands, fathers, brothers and friends. Eighteen were thus massacred, *all protestants!* not a single Roman Catholic hurt, although there were some of them in the house with Mr. Moore.

The Insurgents remained in undisturbed possession of the town, until Monday morning, when a detachment of the 7th dragoons, and some yeomenry from Tullamore, attacked them, but were beat off, with the loss of one officer made prisoner, four privates and two yeomen killed. This gave them such savage confidence, that they were determined to put every protestant to death; but fortunately for *them*, Colonel Longfield, with a detachment of the city of Cork militia, two curricle guns, and a part of the 5th dragoons, or green horse, arrived and cleared the town of those miscreants in a few hours after, killing about fifty of them, without the loss of a man, and but two or three wounded. If any thing further occurs to me, necessary for your information, I shall be happy in communicating it to you, if in my power.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. B.

LETTER XXII.

ATHY, SEPT. 17, 1799.

SIR,

THE first part of your Narrative of the Irish Rebellion informs me, we are soon to be favored with a continuation of those melancholy, yet interesting events, which occurred in the year 1798. Should you not have received the particulars of the attack at *Providence*, Queen's-county, I make bold to transmit you a summary thereof; fully assured (though it should appear to some uninteresting) it will be gratefully received in that part of the kingdom.

On the morning of the twenty-fourth of May, 1798, a party of Insurgents, fifteen hundred and upwards, attacked the house of the Rev. John Whitty of *Providence*. There were in the house at the time fifteen Protestants of the Slieumargue cavalry. These brave fellows withstood the fury of the enemy: for upwards of two hours they kept up an incessant fire from the windows, which galled the assassins very much. The firing from within having ceased, the Insurgents concluded the ammunition was expended, and were proceeding to set fire to the hall door, by means of several loads of straw brought thither for that purpose, when they were frustrated by the intrepidity of Mr. Whitty who leaped out of a parlor window, shot two fellows in the act of fanning the straw; a third, on approaching Mr. Whitty, met the same fate. Mr. W. jumped into the parlor window, exclaiming "the rebelly assassins never made a ball to kill me."

I should not omit informing you of the conduct of Mr. Duigan whose name I have seen in your FIRST PART of this Narrative. Being apprised of the attack on Mr. Whitty's house, he rode off to Stradbally, and made known the situation of his friends when Lieutenant Colonel Fane with a party of the fourth dragoons, and some of the Stradbally yeomenry set off to relieve this small garrison at *Providence*: but the Insurgents prepared against a surprise, had fixed their out-posts at all the contiguous avenues, by whom information was brought them of the approach of the army. They immediately retreated up to Cappalug-hill, setting fire to every protestant house in their way, leaving fifteen dead, and a great quantity of pikes. Numbers must have been wounded.

The sufferers who escaped from their habitations (set on fire,) experienced a safe asylum and every possible attention, from Peter Gale, Esq., of Ashfield, to whose house they flocked in numbers—men, women, and children.

The loyalists had one man killed (named Furney,) going express to Stradbally: he was surrounded by a set of Insurgents, near Castletown-church, who piked him in a dreadful manner, he fought gallantly; escaped from them, and rode near a mile, when he fell from his horse, and expired near the avenue gate of Coolanoull. (His brother, J. Furney, was wounded from a ball that grazed his face.) Had he used the same precaution of his comrade, named Empy, who nearly met the same fate, he probably might have survived. He lay fainting on the road with the loss of blood—having asked some women for water to drink, which they refused; he then begged of them, for God's sake, to send for a priest, that he was dying; they immediately brought him in, and administered every relief in their power, by which means he recovered.

Yours, &c. &c.

FRENCH INVASION,

AND

SECOND INSURRECTION IN IRELAND.

REBELLION had almost been suppressed in Ireland, through the effectual means uniformly adopted throughout the kingdom, by order of the government, which was likely to have been succeeded by peace and tranquility, till intelligence of the arrival of a French force was circulated. This soon evinced to the loyalists that the expiring embers would again revive, if not immediately extinguished, as the sequil will fully prove. The blood-thirsty and rapicious dispositions, which, previous to this had marked with the strongest traits of barbarity, the ferocious character of an internal foe; and which conducted them forward to commit on those who had the misfortune to fall into their clutches, such deeds of cruelty! of wanton cruelty! as human nature must shudder at the recital of, again roused and called forth into action, those brave fellows, who, under *Divine* aid, proved the SAVIOURS of IRELAND.—To them were addressed the following lines here introduced.

LETTER XXIII.

KILLALA, OCT. 2, 1799.

SIR,

WERE I to attempt a detail of each occurrence relative to the landing of the French at this place, until they were forwarded to Dublin (by the canal,) together with the proceedings and fate of the infatuated Insurgents who joined them, I fear it would be found too prolix for your present purpose. You say you have pledged yourself to the nation, to be *minute* in your SECOND PART. The following, I hope, will serve your purpose and afford satisfaction.

Yours, &c.

D. T.

AMIDST all the horrors of the Insurrection (the subject of your Narrative,) previous to the French invasion, this province (Connaught,) happily for us, proved quiet—nor should we, I suppose, have been otherwise, but for the landing of the French, on the 22d of August, 1798, from three frigates and a brig, to the number of one thousand at least, near Killala,

under General Humbert, * with a number of officers, and some pieces of artillery. They immediately proceeded for this town, defeated and took prisoners a party of the Prince of Wales' tencible infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Silles, who, with a few of our yeomen cavalry, boldly attempted to stop their progress: three or four loyalists were killed. The French lost no time in making themselves masters of Killala—the Bishop's palace was surrounded by the French and a number of Insurgents, some in a uniform provided by their new friends. Nothing could exceed the consternation which prevailed throughout the town—the loyalists every moment expecting to be butchered in cold blood; men, women, and children drowned in tears, attempting to escape, but in vain! Every avenue leading from Killala, was thronged by Insurgents making in to receive the fraternal embrace, whose eyes indicated the malignity of their hearts. No one was permitted to depart, but on business which concerned the invaders. The Bishop of Killala, Dean Thompson, Dr. Ellison, and some other clergymen, with their families, were taken prisoners and confined to the Bishop's palace, but were all treated extremely well by the French officer commanding.

* General Humbert was accompanied in this expedition by some disaffected Irishmen, who had received commissions in the French service; some of whom afterwards forfeited their lives—a just punishment for their base treachery.

The following printed DECLARATION was profusely strewed throughout the streets, and read with avidity by their ignorant dupes.

LIBERTY, EQUALITY, FRATERNITY, UNION!

IRISHMEN,

You have not forgot Bantry Bay—you know what efforts France has made to assist you. Her affections for you, her desire for avenging your wrongs, and ensuring your independence, can never be impaired.

After several unsuccessful attempts, behold Frenchmen arrived amongst you.

They come to support your courage, to share your dangers, to join their arms, and to mix their blood with yours in the sacred cause of liberty! They are the forerunners of other Frenchmen, whom you shall soon infold in your arms.

Brave IRISHMEN, our cause is common; like you, we abhor the avaricious and blood-thirsty policy of an oppressive government; like you, we hold as indefeasible the right of all nations to liberty; like you, we are persuaded that the peace of the world shall ever be troubled, as long as the British Ministry is suffered to make, with impunity, a traffic of the industry, labor and blood of the people.

But exclusive of the same interests which unite us, we have powerful motives, to love and defend you.

Have we not been the pretext of the cruelty exercised against you, by the Cabinet of St. James,—the heartfelt interest you have shewn in the grand events of our revolution. Has it not been imputed to you as a crime? Are not tor-

tures and death continually hanging over such of you as are barely suspected of being our friends? Let us unite, then, and march to glory.

We swear the most inviolable respect for your properties, your laws, and all your religious opinions. Be free; be masters in your own country. We look for no other conquest than that of your liberty,—no other success than yours.

The moment of breaking your chains is arrived; our triumphant troops are now flying to the extremities of the earth, to tear up the roots of the wealth and tyranny of our enemies. That frightful Colossus is mouldering away in every part. Can there be any Irishman base enough to separate himself at such a happy conjunction from the grand interests of his country? If such there be, brave friends, let him be chased from the country he betrays, and let his property become the reward of those generous men who know how to fight and die.

Irishmen, recollect the late defeats which your enemies have experienced from the French; recollect the plains of Honscoote, Toulon, Quiberon and Ostend; recollect America, free from the moment she wished to be so.

The contest between you and your oppressors cannot be long.

Union! Liberty! the Irish Republic!—such is our shout. Let us march. Our hearts are devoted to you; our glory is in your happiness.

The principal French officers continued in the palace, the remainder of the force were distributed throughout the houses: the French were very solicitous to be supplied with the very best provisions, and we found it our interest to grant them all they required for to secure our lives, daily threatened by the Insurgents. That they attempted the destruction of the loyalist wherever an opportunity offered, is publicly acknowledged, even by *General Humbert* in his letter to the president of the court-martial before whom the traitor *Teeling* was tried; in endeavoring to exculpate him he asserts "Teeling, by his bravery and generous conduct has prevented in *all* the town through which we have passed the *Insurgents* from proceeding to the most cruel excesses."—Yes, my friends, the extirpation of *all* who professed themselves inimical to their diabolical measures was invariably to have been adapted.

The vessels which brought our unwelcome guests sailed from Killala the 24th—probably they were intended to be employed on a second expedition. It will be readily admitted that our situation during the time of our captivity was very alarming; ignorant of the state of the Kingdom, exposed to the insults of the Insurgents—concluding, from the accounts in hourly circulation, that the government had been overturned—also that an additional French force would immediately arrive, we would have preferred natural death to such a state of suspense.

Such was the increasing insolence and thirst for our blood, that the prisoners in the palace could only have escaped the Insurgents by receiving arms, &c. from the officer commanding at the palace.—This you will meet in the official bulletin to which I refer you, Sir, for a faithful account of our deliverance.

DUBLIN CASTLE, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 1798.

Extracts of letters from Major-general Trench, to Captain Taylor, private Secretary to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, dated Camp, near Killala, the 24th and 26th instants.

SIR,

"I HAVE the honor to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency, the Lord Lieutenant, that previous to my leaving Castlebar on Saturday, the 22nd inst. I had ordered Lord

Portorlington with the regiment under his command, forty of the 24th light dragoons, Captain O'Hara's, Captain Wynne's, and Captain Croston's corps of yeomenry, to meet me at Ballina, at ten o'clock on Sunday morning from Sligo. I also ordered the Armagh militia, consisting of above three hundred men, under Major Acheson, to proceed from Foxford, and to co-operate with me at the same hour. I marched with the Roxburgh light dragoons, three hundred of the Downshire, the Kerry regiment, the Prince of Wales' fencibles, and two curricle guns, with the Tyrawly cavalry, by the Barhague road, and ordered Colonel Fraser, with three hundred of his regiment, to march from Newport, where I had detached him on Friday, in order if possible, to cut off the retreat of the Insurgents. The forces under Lord Portorlington had been frequently attacked on their march, and Major Acheson was attacked by a large body of Insurgents at Foxford. On every occasion they have been dispersed with slaughter.

On my arrival at Ballina, I found that the town had been evacuated by the Insurgents, and was occupied by the forces under Lord Portorlington, I immediately marched, without halting, for this place. At about two miles from the town our advanced guard was fired upon by that of the Insurgents. Finding that Ballina was in our possession, and hearing that the Insurgents had retreated to Killala, I ordered the Kerry regiment of militia, with the detachment of the 24th light dragoons, the Tyrawly, and Captain Wynne's corps of yeomen cavalry, to proceed by a forced march to Killala, by Rappa, which they performed with zeal and dispatch. As they entered the town at one end, our advanced guards entered it on the other, and maintained a quick and well directed fire on the Insurgents, who fled in all directions.

The officers and men under my command, behaved with zeal, spirit, and activity ; and I feel myself much indebted to their exertions. I derived much advantage from fifty men of

the Downshire regiment of militia, trained by Major Matthews as sharp shooters, and who, under his command, with a party of the Roxburgh light dragoons, formed my advanced guard. To Lieutenant-colonel Elliot, who with forty of the Roxburgh, charged through the town, I feel much indebted. I must also beg leave to mention, in a particular manner, the assistance which I derived from Mr. Ormsby, of Gortnoraby, who, by his accurate knowledge of the country through which I passed, and its inhabitants, was of the greatest service. I also owe much to Mr. Orme, of Abbytown, and several other gentlemen in the neighborhood of the disturbed country.

Upon entering the town of Killala, I proceeded to the palace of the bishop, who I much feared had suffered from the rage of the Insurgents, but was happy to find him and his family in safety, but preserved from their violence only by the authority which Charost, the French commandant of the town, possessed over them but which was beginning rapidly to decline before we arrived, insomuch, that he was obliged to arm himself, and the other French officers, with a number of carbines, which he delivered up loaded in his room : the bishop, his family, and servants, were armed in the like manner, by him, and served out with ammunition, in order to protect them from the threatened violence of the Insurgents. At the palace, the head quarters of the commandant, I found two hundred and seventy barrels of powder.

Having heard late on the night of the twenty-fourth inst. that the Insurgents were assembling in great numbers at a place called the Lacken, I marched on the morning of the twenty-fifth in that direction ; they fled and dispersed on our approach, but, by the activity of the men, several were overtaken, between fifty and sixty were killed, all in arms, and five taken prisoners. Amongst the killed were several in French uniforms. I did not return here till nine o'clock last night. The men bore a fatiguing march of fourteen hours with zeal

and spirit. Bellew and Burke were hanged yesterday, by the sentence of a general court-martial. Five men came in and surrendered their arms this morning, under the proclamation; I trust that their example will be followed by many others.

P. S. In our different actions with the Insurgents they lost between five and six hundred men. We lost but one man.

J. TRENCH,
Major of Brigade.

That our *visitors* were prepossessed in behalf of the loyalists, and particularly of the Bishop of Killala and those confined with him in his palace, is evident from General Humbert's letter, which I doubt not but you will concur, is worthy of being recorded in your Narrative. It is as follows:—

TO THE LORD BISHOP OF KILLALA.

DOVER, OCTOBER 26, 1798.

MY LORD,

ON the point of returning to France, I think it incumbent on me to testify in a particular manner, the sentiments with which you have uniformly inspired me.

From the moment that I had the opportunity of being acquainted with you, I ceased not to regret that chance, and my duty as a soldier, obliged me, by carrying the scourge of war into your neighborhood, to disturb the domestic felicity which you enjoyed, and to which you were every way entitled. I should be happy indeed, if on my return to my country, I might flatter myself that I had acquired some pretensions to your esteem. Independently of the particular reasons I have for loving and respecting you, the description that citizen Charost has given me of all your acts of goodness to him and

his officers, as well before as after the retaking of Killala, must forever claim from me the tribute of esteem and gratitude. I beg the favor of Your Lordship to accept this acknowledgment of and to share it with your valuable family.

I am with the highest respect,
My Lord,
Your most humble servant.
HUMBERT.

YOU may easily conceive the happiness that succeeded upon our being liberated; joy sparkled from every loyal countenance; those who had undergone so painful a separation, now felt the felicity of the restoration of their friends, whose lives were for some time doubtful. To Him who brought to nought the machinations of those who rose up against us, be the eternal praise.

I am, Sir, &c.

THE Editor flatters himself the following Account will afford to the Reader the information so long sought for, relative to *Castlebar*. It is extracted from the Journal of a Gentleman

of great veracity, who favored the Editor with the same, for this NARRATIVE.—The statement will prove irrefragable.

ON the twenty-second of August, 1798, as we were going to bed, a yeoman of Ballina made through Foxford, shouting "Why are you going to bed, and the French in Killala?" Some mocked, and others cursed him, but I persuaded the men to arise, arm themselves, and not doubt it. At eleven o'clock that night, Dr. King, who fled to us from Ballina, confirmed it. He said there had been some strangers observed at Ballina for some days past; that three large frigates were seen by himself, which at first appeared with English colors; they had taken a fishing-boat, and detained the men. About day break, a few troops of the Carabineers, and some yeomen went through Foxford, which were nearly all posted as pickets that night, between Ballina and Killala. Our men let their horses feed, taking the bits out of their mouths, and before they were mounted they were nearly surrounded: they retreated into Ballina, hanged on the crane a man caught foraging for the French, and then retreated into Castlebar; having lost the Rev. Mr. Fortescue, and some of their men in the skirmish.

I returned to Castlebar that morning. Expresses flew, and troops teamed in with us from that till Sunday following: General Hutchinson and Trench were in Castlebar, and General Taylor in Foxford.

On Sunday night, at ten o'clock, the Longford militia marched in; while eating some bread and cheese, a shot was fired out of a window at them! O my friend, think of our situation! In the dark of the night; four thousand enraged soldiers in the town. A noise arose, the clamor of irritated passions! Arms clashed against each other, and glass flew

from the windows, whilst the enraged men called for vengeance on the culprit. The General shouted for the officer commanding, (Captain Chambers) to stand in the street until the affair should be over. The fellow who fired the shot fled off, when he thought he had kindled a flame which would destroy the town. I am told if there had not been instant peace the General would have caused the cannon to be brought to bear on the street, and sweep it with grape-shot: but glory to the Prince of Peace, he gave us a silent street in ten minutes. The men had orders that night, to be mounted and fit for action at two in the morning. There were two roads between Castlebar and Killala, one called Foxford, and the other Bernanaguidha; on the former out troops were posted, but on the latter our pickets met the French army, at two o'clock in the morning and narrowly escaped being taken: they rushed into the town, others were sent out, but returned with precipitation; the General was told the French were within six miles of us at five in the morning.

On Monday about six in the morning, some of our troops went to Foxford the wrong road. Having requested Captain Chambers to accept my bed, I sat up all that night, drew a map of the country and sent it to the General. A little before day, my wife told me, "I will see this battle in the street, having in a dream beheld flags;—a green and another of a different color."—We then agreed to consult the bible—I first opened for our army, II. Kings, vii. 7. "Wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, even the Camp as it was and fled for their life." We opened next for our country, Jeremiah, v. 15. "Lo I will bring a nation upon you from far, O house of Israel, saith the Lord; it is a mighty nation, it is an ancient nation, a nation whose language thou knowest not, neither understandest what they say." I next opened for our King, Psalm lxi. 7. He shall abide before God forever, O prepare mercy and truth

which may preserve him." I lastly opened for my wife and myself, John xiii. 7. "Jesus answered and said unto him, what I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter. From all these I concluded we should lose *that* battle, but that the King and Constitution would be still upheld.

BATTLE OF CASTLEBAR.

At seven o'clock the French army was within a mile and a half of the town; our infantry went out, and the lines were formed. When the French General viewed our lines, he scattered his Frenchmen in Parties thin in the front, but covered them deep behind with the Insurgents in French uniforms, and drove them on with a strong reserve of Frenchmen and officers; and behind all, a vast multitude of plunderers terrible to behold! especially as a mist lowered on the mountains behind them, which concealed their true force from our Generals—we stood in the street with trembling expectation, whilst Generals, Aids-de-camp, and officers rushed up and down in dread commotion. I then retired and ascended to a high window, from whence I saw our lines in action. O how I felt for the brave Highlanders, who formed the left wing of our army; they, planted on a high hedge at the wost end of the town, supported a constant fire until the French advanced near the points of their bayonets; the Highlanders were then forced to leave their post, and retreat in confusion towards us. Colonel Miller rushed into the town, crying, "clear the street for a street action;" when in a moment, as a dam bursting its banks, a mixture of soldiers, of all kinds rushed into the town at every avenue; a Sergeant desired that all the women should go to the barrack, but Dr. Hennins, another family and mine, retired into a house, fell on their knees, and there remained in prayer until the town was taken.

There were men in our brigade of the highest valor, for instance Captain Chambers, he fought backward and killed a field officer (it is thought a general); he found a musket in his way, which he exchanged with a trooper for a lighter; with this he fought on the bridge, until he killed five Frenchmen; he was then closely engaged with a French musketeer, when another Frenchman ran a bayonet down the Captain's throat, and drove the point of it out at the side of his neck; he fell, and nearly bled to death, when the Insurgents wantonly leaped on him, tore his clothes off, and robbed him of several guineas. On the other hand, the French fought most desperately. One of them received a ball in the sword-arm, he changed his sword and fought on—he then received a ball in the left breast but fought on; at length, a royal soldier plunged his bayonet through him. Now the royal troops grew furious! Many had their wives in the town, and would rather die than fly. Four brave Highlanders at a cannon, kept up a brisk fire on the French: but were killed while loading, the gunner taken, and the guns turned on our men. Now the street action became hot; before it was *peal* answering *peal*, but now *thunder* answering *thunder*; a black cloud of horrors hid the light of heaven; the messengers of death groping their way as in gloomy hell, whilst the trembling echos which shook our town, concealed the more melancholy groans of the dying! When they approached the new jail, our sentinel (a Frazer fencible) killed one Frenchman, charged and killed another; shot the third and a fourth, and as he fired at and killed the fifth, a number rushed up the steps, dashed his brains out, tumbling him from his stand and

the sentry-box on his body. Still part of the French pursued our men; seven of them followed thirty-eight some distance, though our men killed the whole without any loss on our part. One of these seven French-men had his head divided by a sabre; a woman asked him in French would he be taken to some place, "No," said he, "I will never leave this until the Devil takes me," and continued calling for beer until he died. For near an hour the street action continued, when the French drum informed us we were to receive our conquerers. The command of temper evinced by these licensed plunderers of the world was truly amazing. My wife fell on her knees (she was at the down-lying) entreating one of them to spare my life, he raised her up as a nurse would an infant saying, "*vire*:" but they demanded beef, bread, wine and beer, we purchased their favor as far as was in our power, but the hand of God wrought secretly for us; six or seven of the Frenchmen continued with me while they were in Castlebar. The Insurgents who came in with them plundered, drank and robbed without feeling. They carried off my wearing apparel, of which I acquainted the Frenchmen, who handled them so roughly as to prevent a further repetition of such villainy.

The French and Insurgents plundered Lord Lucan's and several other houses, the sight of them was truly terrible! Multitudes flocking from all parts carrying their flags and shouting for "Liberty." Droves of sheep, cows, and horses driven in every day; next the *Tree of Liberty* and an harp without a crown, are borne in triumph through the streets, followed by the common shouts "Erin go bragh."—Now the church is attacked, obscene figures made on the pews, and some were so vile as to abuse in the most filthy manner the Bible and *table of the Lord!* they called the Bible "the Devil's book" Roach told a lady, "he hoped that book of riddles would soon be universally despised." The next subject in dispute is the massacre of the Protestants—for three days

this contest held. Teeling, a priest Kane, and some others carried the point in *our* favor. Mr. Kane reasoned thus, as I am informed:—"Gentlemen, when you were in the power of the Protestants, they did not shed your blood; when your friends were taken in Wexford they were not put to death, but pardoned, and take care you be not shortly in the power of Government: finally, if you will massacre the Protestants, put me to death with them."

The following proclamation was handed about to the deluded Insurgents.

ARMY OF IRELAND.

LIBERTY, EQUALITY.

Head quarters at Castlebar, 14th Fructidor, 6th year of the French Republic, one and indivisible.

General Humbert, commanding in chief the Army of Ireland, being desirous of organizing, with as little delay as possible, an administrative power for the province of Connaught, directs as follows:—

1st. The seat of government shall be at Castlebar, until further orders.

2d. The government shall be formed of twelve members, who shall be named by the commander in chief of the French army.

3d. Citizen John More* is appointed president of the government of the province of Connaught, and is specially entrusted with the nomination and the uniting of its members.

4th. The government shall immediately attend to the organization of the militia of the province of Connaught, and to the supplies for the French and Irish armies.

5th. Eight regiments of infantry of twelve hundred men each, and four regiments of cavalry of six hundred men each, shall be organized.

6th. The government shall declare all those to be Insurgents and traitors, who, having received arms, or clothing, shall not within twenty-four hours rejoin the army.

7th. Every individual, from the age of sixteen to forty inclusive, is required, in the name of the Irish Republic, instantly to repair to the French camp, in order to march in mass against the common enemy, the tyrant of Ireland—the English; whose destruction alone can insure the independence and welfare of ancient Hibernia.

(signed)

The General commanding in chief,

HUMBERT.

How far the two following letters of General Humbert's will be found correct, I am not competent to determine; as they have, however, appeared in print, they cannot, I presume, subject your publication to censure; they also may be found interesting—the reader by consulting the various accounts given will be enabled to form an opinion of their validity.

*Afterwards taken prisoner by Col. Crawford.

ARMY OF IRELAND.

Head quarters at Castlebar, 6th Year of the French Republic.

THE GENERAL COMMANDING IN CHIEF THE ARMY OF IRELAND, TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY.

I am to report to you, Citizens Directors, what have been my operations in Ireland.

On the 4th Fructidor, as soon as I got within sight of Broadhaven, the army received the appellation of army of Ireland. The wind being unfavorable, we could not make the land on that day.

On the 5th, the division of frigates, after beating against wind and tide during twelve hours, anchored in the bay of Killala about three o'clock P. M. In consequence of our having hoisted the English flag, many persons of note and some English officers came on board;—it is impossible to describe their astonishment at the sight of us. Adjutant General Sarazin landed first, at the head of the grenadiers. I ordered him to march to Killala, which he carried with the bayonet. I appointed him General of Brigade on the field of battle. The enemy was completely defeated. Of two hundred men who defended the post, about twenty only escaped over the walls; the rest were taken or killed. Almost all the prisoners begged to be permitted to serve with us, and I readily consented to their request. The disembarkation was completed towards ten o'clock at night.

On the 6th, General Sarazin reconnoitred Ballina ; a slight skirmish only took place, the enemy's cavalry having retired in full gallop the space of two leagues.

On the 7th, I marched with the army against Ballina. General Sarazin at the head of the grenadiers and of one battalion of the line, dispersed every thing that opposed his passage. The Adjutant General Fontaine was directed to turn the enemy's flank. This attack succeeded, and he took several prisoners. I pursued the cavalry during a considerable time, with the brave 3d. regiment of Chasseurs a Cheval.

On the 8th, the French army was joined by a corps of United Irishmen, who were armed and clothed on the spot. Towards three o'clock P. M. I moved forward to Rappa, and remained in that direction until two o'clock A. M.

On the 9th, the army advanced to Ballina, where it took post, but marched from it at three o'clock P. M. After a march of fifteen hours I arrived on the 10th, at six o'clock in the morning, on the heights in the rear of Castlebar. Having examined the enemy's position, which was very strong, I ordered General Sarazin to commence the attack. The enemy's out-posts were rapidly driven in, and were pursued as far as the foot of the enemy's position. The grenadiers changed their line of battle, and were supported by the infantry of the line. The columns employed under the fire of twelve pieces of cannon. General Sarazin ordered the enemy's left to be attacked by a battalion of the line, which was obliged to give way, having received the fire of upwards of one thousand men. General Sarazin flew to its support at the head of the grenadiers, and repulsed the enemy. The English during half an hour, kept up a tremendous fire of musketry, to which General Sarazin forbid reposting. Our determined countenance disconcerted the English General and soon as the whole of the army had come up, I ordered a general attack to be made. General Sarazin drove in the enemy's right, and took three

pieces of cannon. The Chief of Battalion, Ardouin, obliged his left to retire to Castlebar.

The enemy having concentrated his force in Castlebar, and protected by his artillery, kept up a terrible fire—but by a successful charge of the third regiment of chasseurs a cheval made through the main street of Castlebar, he was forced to retire across the bridge. After several very destructive charges, both of cavalry and infantry, directed by General Sarazin, and Adjutant-general Fontaine, the enemy was driven from all his positions, and pursued for the space of two leagues.

The enemy's loss amounts to one thousand eight hundred men (of which six hundred were killed or wounded, and twelve hundred prisoners,) ten pieces of cannon, five stand of colors, twelve hundred fire-locks, and almost all his baggage. The standard of his cavalry was taken in a charge by General Sarazin, whom I named General of division on the field of battle. I also, during the action, appointed the Adjutant-general Fontaine, General of brigade, and chiefs of battalion Azemare, Ardouin, and Dufour, chiefs of brigade. I further named Captain Durival a commander of squadron, and Captains Tousaint, Zilberman, Ranou, Huette, Babiu and Rutz, chiefs of battalion. I beg, Citizen directors, that you will be pleased to confirm these promotions, and that you will send the commissions as soon as possible, as it will be productive of very good effects.

Officers and soldiers have shewn prodiges of valor. We have to regret the loss of some excellent officers and very brave soldiers. I shall very shortly forward to you further details ; at present I will only add, that the enemy's army, consisting of between five and six thousand men of which six hundred are cavalry, has been completely dispersed.

Health and respect,

(Signed) HUMBERT.

ARMY OF IRELAND.

Head-quarters, Castlebar, sixth year of the French Republic.

THE GENERAL COMMANDING IN CHIEF THE ARMY OF IRELAND, TO THE MINISTER OF MARINE.

I TRANSMIT to you, Citizen Minister, the copy of my letter to the Executive Directory. You will perceive that no exertions are wanting on our part to fulfil the intentions of Government.

I have made several appointments, according to the actions and to the military talents, displayed by those whom they regard, and I solicit your support in obtaining from the Executive Directory a confirmation of them.

About six hundred United Irish joined me on the 8th Fructidor, and were immediately armed and clothed, on the 10th, they came forward to the heights in the rear of Castlebar. The first cannon shot that was fired drove them off. I expected as much, and their panic in no way deranged my operations.

The victory of Castlebar has produced excellent effects; and I hope within three days to have with me a corps of two or three thousand of the inhabitants.

The English army, which I yesterday defeated, is commanded by General Houghton, whose head quarters are now at Tuam. He intends to assemble twenty-five thousand men to attack me; and on my side, I am doing my utmost to be well prepared for his reception, and even to go and meet him

should circumstances justify such proceeding. We occupy Killala, Ballina, Foxford, Castlebar, Newport, Ballinrobe and Westport. As soon as the corps of United Irishmen, which I wish to assemble, shall be clothed, I shall march against the enemy in the direction of Roscommon, where the partisans of Insurrection are most zealous. As soon as the English army shall have evacuated the province of Connaught, I shall pass theShannon, and shall endeavor to make a junction with the Insurgents in the North. When this shall have been effected, I shall be in a sufficient force to march to Dublin, and to fight a decisive action.

The Irish have, until this day, hung back. The county of Mayo has never been disturbed, and this must account for the slowness of our progress, which, in other parts, would have been very different.

As this handful of French may possibly be obliged to yield to numbers, and that the noise of cannon may again produce on our new soldiers the effect it had at Castlebar, I desire you will send me one battalion of the third half brigade of light-infantry, one of the tenth half brigade of the line, one hundred and fifty of the third regiment of chasseurs a cheval, and one hundred men of the light artillery; fifteen thousand firelocks, and a million of cartridges.

I will venture to assert, that in the course of a month after the arrival of this reinforcement, which I estimate at two thousand men, Ireland will be free.

The fleet may anchor in the bay of *Tarhoy*, by 53° 55′ latitude, south of *L'Isle Muttette*, and the disembarkation will be effected without difficulty.

I cannot sufficiently praise the conduct of the troops under my command. I must recommend my brave comrades to the gratitude of the nation, and to your paternal care.

Health and respect.

(Signed) HUMBERT.

To account in part for our defeat at Castlebar, and also refute Humbert's pompous letter, it may not be improper (though not in the proposed order) to extract from a recent publication, the words of an officer serving under Lord Cornwallis, relative to the engagement at this place.

"The French, with about sixteen hundred Insurgents advanced in regular order upon the King's troops, who waited their approach in the position they occupied. The artillery, under Captain Shortall, was admirably served, and made a visible impression, insomuch that the enemy's advance was actually checked, and they began to disperse. At this critical moment, our troops as if seized with a sudden panic, and without any apparent reason, gave way, and notwithstanding every effort made by Lieutenant-general Lake, Major generals Hutchinson and Trench, and the very meritorious exertions of all their officers, they could not be rallied, but retired in confusion through Castlebar, towards Hollymount Lord Roden's fencible dragoons, however, shewed great gallantry upon this, as they had upon all other occasions; they protected the retreat of the infantry, and even recovered a six pounder which the French had pushed forward through Castlebar. The skeleton of the sixth regiment under Major Macbean, also behaved with spirit in the action.

The following is the return* of killed, wounded and missing, and of guns lost upon this unfortunate occasion. Of the soldiers of the Longford and Kilkenny militia returned missing, the greater part had deserted to the enemy. The loss of the French killed and wounded (and resulting almost entirely from the effect of the artillery), was afterwards found to have been far more considerable than that of the King's troops."

* By comparing our return with Humbert's, the fallacy is notorious, and tends more fully to establish the French to excel in gasconading.

The total of our loss was, one Sergeant and fifty-two rank and file, killed ; two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, and twenty-nine rank and file wounded ; two Majors, three Captains, six Lieutenants ; three Ensigns, two staff, ten Sergeants, two drummers, and two hundred and fifty-one rank and file missing—also nine field-pieces.

Castlebar was nine days a republic ; they elected a Mayor, two high Justices and six Municipal officers : *liberty*, *equality*, *fraternity* and *unity*, were their boasted professions !—Though we were slaves ; was this *liberty !* the French eat bread and beef, drank wine and beer, giving the Irish potatoes, and telling them to drink what they pleased.—The French slept on *beds*, the Irish on *hay* in the fields ; was this *equality ?* the French beat and treated the Insurgents like dogs ; was this *fraternity ?* and *they* shot and murdered each other, was this *unity ?* No ; all was *democracy !!!* Next we were informed that every one who would not take up arms for the French should be put to death,—then for the second time I resolved to meet death, and felt in prospect the sweets of martyrdom. It has been reported that the French abused women imdiscriminately ; but this is false. Many of us proved them both brave and generous—those who were lions in the street, seemed like lambs in the parlor. However, I have imagined this to be policy ; and that, if they had once conquered the country, they would in a mass cut off all who had opposed them : of this I am the more persuaded, their first tax upon Castlebar being two thousand guineas. Cruel specimen of freedom. This is most certain, the French mocked the Papists, for paying any respect to the Sabbath, not eating meat on Fridays, and wearing Scapulars, and in my own hearing they denied the resurrection.

Thus, were we of necessity subject to this wild tyranny ; had two thousand kings in our little town ; women worse than savages, bearing off hides, tallow, suet, beef and clothes of all

kinds to the mountains. They even robbed and killed each other : a volume only would contain their unnatural acts. The day before they left us, the Marquis Cornwallis reached to Hollymount, fourteen miles from us, and on that night one of the Frenchmen who frequented my appartments came to me, told me the *English* were coming, and that they must depart ; I then thought to meet them ; but he meant to flee before them. On the ninth day they departed, commanding their commissary and the mayor to have beef sufficient killed for them on their return. But they returned no more ! And the Lord sent their fatal harpies and devouring locusts with them.

We remained in great distress, dreading their return all that day. Dr. Ellison wrote a letter and a young man, William Mayley, on my horse (who was hid in a back kiln, and was five days without food or water,) ventured to carry it to the Lord Lieutenant. The doctor finding the French were not returning, though he was their prisoner, set out when near Hollymount he met some Hessians, Hanoverians, and Roxburgh fencibles, coming from the Marquis ; with them he returned to Castlebar, at ten of a dark night. When our hope was nearly gone we heard the noise of horses, ran to the street, and heard the Hessians (whom we supposed to be French) crying halloo ! halloo ! We remained silent, till Dr. Ellison cried aloud, the " King's Troops :" with grateful hearts we shouted " God save the King." These brave men kept their saddles all night, though such a heavy rain has been seldom experienced, and next day rode after the grand army, leaving us an hundred French prisoners, fifty of whom were able to fight : we had no other force than a few yeomen. In this fearful situation we remained until Captain Urquhart marched in with fifty-seven Fraser fencibles ; thus we were obliged still to continue in a state of watching and terror for some nights.

On Wednesday, September 12, before daybreak, two of our

men being stationed as pickets, Messrs. Edward Mayley and John Dudgeon, they heard the noise of horses coming from the Gap, and proceeding to the road-side, demanded, "Who comes there?" Ans. "A Friend." "A friend to whom?" Ans. "To the French." "O very well," said our heroes, "come on, my lads, where are you going?" The Insurgents answered, "We are going to take Castlebar, we are Captains, and there are two thousand coming within half a mile of us." Immediately these two brave loyalists closed in with them; one of them presented a pistol, the other his sword, saying "deliver your arms or you are dead men." Having made them prisoners, they entered the town shouting, "murder! murder! arise to arms or you will be murdered in your beds." this echoed so loud, all the town rung with it—hundreds repeated it; men undressed rushed through the streets—incessant rain heavily descended! the drums beat "to arms," whilst the dark solitary walls re-echoed, 'to arms to arms'! At last the tempest silenced the drum: but no cause could allay the vigilance of our townsmen, and the gallant handful of Frasers. The guards continued to bring in prisoners till morning.

At last welcome day shone upon our afflicted town; to me it afforded much consolation, my wife being in the pangs of childbearing all night, though I thought will light save us? no! only serve to display our danger. Thus hope and apprehension bent alternately the ballance. At length all our forebodings are confirmed by a discovery of the plodding assassins, planted to great advantage round the North-west part of our devoted town. Captain Urquhart, with the spirit of an Alexander commanded his few heroes to advance in order. Our defence that day against two thousand armed Insurgents, (in a country all in rebellion, and numbers in our town with open arms to receive them) consisted of fifty-seven Frasers, thirty-four Townsmen and boys, and one corps of yeomen cavalry. The Fraser Captain divided his men into four parts,

one part by the only piece of cannon he had, at the market cross, the second part he has posted in the center, between the market-house and the extreme entrance to the town, with the third part he covered half of the cavalry at the North end of the town, where he judged the Insurgents would attempt an entrance, and the fourth part he posted in a Western street, near a bridge to cover the retreat of the thirty-four infantry, who were townsmen, chiefly volunteers in colored clothes, and the other part of the cavalry he posted on an eminence in the South end of the town opposite the Church.

The wisdom of Captain Urquhart in this distribution of his men appears, when we consider first, the Frasers were so placed, that they defended the town entrances—secondly, they were ready to save the cavalry from the pikes—thirdly, they could support the retreat of the thirty-four townsmen if overcome—fourthly they had such command of the interior of the street and gaol, that our intestine foes could not stir; and fifthly all the Frasers could in a moment rush together, and assist each other if occasion required. I cannot say whether the Captain had all this in view, but I could prove it all from the positions of his little Highland army. There was in the town at this time a certain gentleman who gave it as his advice to flee to Tuam, and leave our wives, children, sick and aged with our property to the savage plunderers. I mention this to correct a base newspaper report which gave him the chief place in our deliverance. But thank God a Scotchman had the command; Captain Urquhart will be held in grateful remembrance by the loyalists of Castlebar.

SECOND BATTLE OF CASTLEBAR.

About seven o'clock in the morning, the firing commenced; the Insurgents were furious, and fired with determination and close direction. At length a Mr. John Gallagher rushed from his ranks upon the Insurgents and was followed by his brother who commanded the party, another party then flew on the enemy, the Frasers burned with ardor to be in the action: hence all pursue the flying banditti, except a small detachment which remained with Lieutenant Denham to keep possession of the town—now the cavalry dart upon them, kill and take prisoners until they fill our gaols; numbers attempting to cross a river were drowned, and many found dead in a lake. One Insurgent prisoner brought in, (his neck torn by a ball and two lodged in his body,) confessed that the intentions of that band were to destroy the Protestants, man, woman and child, and to plunder the town, killing even the Loyal Papists! Thus by divine mercy ended the second engagement at Castlebar! It was awful to see those harpies like rooks blackening the distant hills as they ascended. After this, Newport and Westport were taken by the Insurgents, but Captain Urquhart with the Rt. Honorable D. Browne, re-took both.

LETTER XXIII.

Cavan, Sept. 6, 1779.

Sir,

I have met with so many things to engross me, that I have been obliged, very reluctantly, to delay the statement here-

with sent, to this late hour. I am sorry it is not better executed; and can only say that it is faithfully and truly detailed, and you may depend upon its accuracy.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant.

V. H.

The county of Cavan was one of those counties in which the people, called *Defenders*, first made their appearance. So early as the beginning of the year 1794, their numbers and strength in that part of the kingdom were such, that they ventured to appear in arms in the daytime, and to face his Majesty's troops in two separate engagements! On one of those occasions they repulsed the City of Dublin militia more than once at Ballinagh, and were preparing to advance against the town of Cavan, when the Dublin militia, aided by the Ballyduff armed association attacked them again in the most gallant manner forced their way into the town of Ballinagh, and totally routed the army of the *Defenders*. Thus defeated, the *Defenders* did not afterwards venture again to meet in array in that neighborhood in the day-time, but their nightly depredations spread terror and desolation throughout the county, even to the very streets of Cavan, where a strong garrison, composed of the Wexford militia, was posted. The alacrity and spirit shewn by that regiment on those occasions reflect the highest honor both on the officers and men. It was a matter of the most poignant reflection, that the *Defenders* invariably drew a line between the two religions—the Prot-

ESTANT and the ROMAN CATHOLIC; the former of which was exclusively the object of attack.

The principles of the *United Irishmen* embraced a scheme of infinitely more extent, than that formed by the *Defenders*. The latter soon gave place to the former, or was included in it. Treason sought not only to make proselytes amongst the loyal, but to embrace under its *green banners* every society, however infamous their members or their objects. "*Pete auxilium ab infimis*," said the Roman conspirator to his agents. The wretched, half-naked peasant of the mountains, and the wealthy and substantial trader—the acred 'squire, and the desperate spendthrift—the humble laborer and the titled Machiavelian—the atheist and the devotee—the Protestant, the Roman-Catholic, and the Presbyterian—the troops of the line—the militia of the country—the volunteer yeoman, the seaman and the marine—all, all were included within the system of *seduction*, and were alike the dupes of it. The gilded title-page, which prefaced their doctrines, imposed upon and misled many; the history of their proceedings and progress is too well known, and too deeply felt by the nation at large, as well as by individuals, to make a further statement of them now necessary.

In a former part of this work, a detail has been given of the *various actions which had taken place between his Majesty's troops and the Insurgent armies*, previous to the autumn of 1798. It would naturally be supposed that the numerous defeats which the Insurgents had every where experienced, would have been sufficient to have deterred them from any further efforts in the field; but the approach of foreign aid roused all their hopes, and animated to fresh enterprises.

In the counties of Westmeath and Longford, and in parts of the counties of Cavan and Leitrim, the agents of the reasonable societies had been uncommonly successful in enlisting the lower orders of society under their banners. However,

in the two latter counties, they had not been able to seduce any person of wealth or consequence to become a leader; but in the county of Longford they found many of that description, who were enthusiasts in their cause, and who influenced thousands by their example. Amongst these were Alexander and Hans Denniston, both of them men of property and respectability in the neighborhood of Granard, the former of whom was the first Lieutenant in Mastrim yeoman cavalry; and several other members of that corps, O'Hara, Cromie, and many more, also raised the Insurgent standard, and armed their followers against their King.

The last expedition prepared by the French republic against Ireland, was previously well known to the traitors in Belfast, and elsewhere. Hans Denniston was dispatched from the county of Longford to that town, to receive instructions. His return to the county of Longford was to be the signal for a general rising, in order to co-operate with and assist the French troops, who were then in the kingdom, and were advancing rapidly and with whom the Longford Insurgents kept up a close communication from the moment of their landing. A strong post in a fertile part of the kingdom was deemed necessary to be secured for the French, in their progress to Dublin, and Granard, which lay in the circuitous route which the position of Lord Cornwallis's army obliged the French general to take, seemed to be such a post as was desired. Every thing was prepared for securing that place, by what they deemed an irresistible attack.

Hans Denniston had returned from Belfast on the third of September; agents and emissaries were dispatched every where, to collect the Insurgent troops. Three thousand came from the county of Westmeath, and in their march they disarmed a part of the Mastrim corps, commanded by Captain Bond, several disaffected members of which joined the Insurgents. Great and shameful neglect was imputable to those

whose duty it was, and who had full opportunity of warning Granard of its approaching danger; but either cowardice or disaffection withheld those persons from doing any act which might prove prejudicial to the Insurgent cause; and thus Granard remained unapprized of the approach of the enemy, till it was too late to prepare against it. Armies were organized in the counties of Monaghan and Cavan, and were ready to co-operate with the Longford Insurgents as soon as Granard had fallen—of which event no doubt, was then entertained; and Cavan, where there was a considerable deport of arms and ammunition, was to be immediately attacked by the united Insurgent armies, whose numbers would then have been immense. Monaghan alone furnished twenty-three thousand men, who were armed, and ready to march to form a junction with the Longford and Cavan Insurgents as soon as Garnard was taken.

The garrison of Granard was at that time very weak. The yeomen corps of that town, and a few of the Ballymacue corps, under Captain Palles, were its only defence. On the night of the 4th of September the Insurgents encamped within view of the place—on that day detachments from two of the county of Cavan corps were sent thither, consisting of twenty-five men of the Crossdoney infantry, and fifteen of the Kilmore corps; but this reinforcement could be of little service in resisting the threatened attack on Granard. In the night of that day, expresses were sent from thence to Major Porter who commanded the Argyle fencible regiment to send speedy relief. That regiment had arrived but a day or two before from Belfast at Cavan and Belturbet, by forced marches, in order to oppose the progress of the French, who were advancing from Castlebar. Major Porter, under the orders he had received, did not hold himself at liberty to detach any of his men from Cavan, which was a post of infinitely more importance than Granard; and conceiving that the appearance of

the Insurgents before Granard might be only a feint to draw off or weaken the garrison of Cavan, and thereby expose it to a successful attack. He therefore for some time prudently declined to send any troops from thence; but further expresses continuing to arrive from Granard, at one o'clock, A. M. on the 5th, Major Porter consented that Captain Cottingham should march to its relief, with detachments of the Cavan and Ballintemple corps of yeomen infantry. The events of the 5th of September have been already laid before the public in the official letter written on the spot by Captain Cottingham, which letter is here transcribed.

LETTER XXIV.

GRANARD, SEPTEMBER 6, 1798.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honor to state to your Lordship that the Insurgents were yesterday defeated near this place with great slaughter.

Having received orders from Major Porter of the Argyle regiment, who commanded at Cavan, to proceed without delay with detachments from the Cavan and Billingtemple corps of yeomen infantry, consisting of eighty-five men, to the relief of Granard, which was threatened by the Insurgents, I marched from Cavan at three o'clock in the morning of the 5th inst. with all possible expedition, and arrived between seven and eight at Granard;—the Insurgent army was then in view of the town, in full march to it, armed with musketry and pikes, amounting (as appeared by the testimony of several prisoners) to more than six thousand men, and commanded by

Mr. Denniston, a Lieutenant in the Mastrim cavalry, who, with others of that corps, and several respectable persons in that neighborhood, had joined the Insurgent standard.

BATTLE OF GRANARD.

The hill on which Granard is built, affording me a strong position, I there drew up under cover of a hedge at some distance from the town, my whole force, consisting only of one hundred and fifty-seven infantry, and forty-nine cavalry, and composed of the above detachments and those specified in the margin,* who had formed the garrison of that place. The Insurgents advanced in one column to attack us in front, but seeing the advantage which our situation gave us, and which protected our front, they halted, and after firing some shots at us, they formed themselves into three columns, the centre one of which was comparatively weak and irregular, and advancing slowly, was evidently intended merely to engage our attention while the other two columns, were of great strength, and formed in perfect military order, moved off to the right and left, under cover of a high hedge, for the purpose of gaining our flanks, and cutting off our communication with the town; this made it necessary that I should retreat a second position nearer to Granard. The Insurgents having collected a vast

* Cavan infantry, fifty-three—Ballintemple do. thirty-one—Longford do. nine—Croffdoney do. twenty-five—Kilmore do. fifteen—Ballymacue dismounted cavalry, twenty-four—total one hundred and fifty-seven. Ballymacue cavalry, eighteen—Granard do. thirty-one—total forty-nine.

number of cattle, and having goaded them with their pikes drove them at this instant furiously against us, but we had the good fortune to be able without being thrown into confusion, to turn them aside in another direction.

Our front being again protected by a bank, we waited the approach of the Insurgents, who, trusting to the effect which they expected from the fury of the cattle, advanced close to our line, and were received by a fire so well directed and heavy, that they soon fell into disorder, and after some time began to give way in all points. This happy moment was seized, and the bayonet completed their defeat. The slaughter which ensued was great indeed, and would have been infinitely more so, had the nature of the ground been such as to have allowed the cavalry to act. It is impossible as yet to ascertain the number of the slain, but they greatly exceed four hundred men. Several leaders were killed, one of whom was the son of a gentleman of an ancient and respectable family, whose only consolation now is, that he has expiated his treason with his life.

The action continued with little interruption from a few minutes after nine till near three in the afternoon. One column of the Insurgent army fled over the mountains towards Mohill, and the other took its direction towards Edgeworth's town. I have the singular happiness to state, that on our part not a life was lost; and only two men wounded, both of whom are recovering.

When it is considered that the whole force which I had the honor to command on this occasion, consisted entirely of detachments from yeomenry corps, so few in number, and without the aid of any regular troops, and opposed to an enemy so formidable by their numbers, I hope your Lordship and their country will think that they have faithfully discharged the trust reposed in them.

Were my tribute of praise of any value to the officers with

whom I had the honor to act I would have much to say ; but the event speaks a language stronger than my pen can utter. It is a matter of real regret, that the exertions of the cavalry were so severely restrained by the strength of the inclosures, which disabled them from adding that eclat to the action which their spirit and zeal would otherwise have done. I cannot, however, omit my acknowledgments to Captain Palles, of the Ballymacue cavalry, and Captain Bell, and Lieutenant Helden of the Granard cavalry, for their anxious endeavors to contribute to the success of the day ; to Lieutenants Erskine and Armstrong, of the Cavan infantry ; Lieutenant Bell, of the Ballintemple infantry ; Lieutenant Booth, of the Crossdoney infantry ; Lieutenant Bell, of the Ballymacue dismounted cavalry, and Moutray Erskine, Esq. who gallantly volunteered on this occasion ; and to the troops in general I can only say, that the history of the day will be the best comment on their conduct.

I have the honor to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient servant.

J. H. COTTINGHAM,

CAPTAIN, CAVAN AND BALLYBAISE INFANTRY.

THE following is an authentic extract of a letter which was written without any intention of appearing in print, by a gentleman of the highest character and respectability, since deceased, who narrowly escaped becoming the victim of his loyalty and humanity ; it is here inserted.

LETTER XXV.

MULLINGAR, SEPT. 10, 1798.

MY DEAR—

THANK the Almighty God I now sit down in peace, to give a recital of some of the events which happened in this district, as far as I am able to recollect. On Tuesday, the fourth of September, a yeoman from near Newpass, came express to let me know the country was *up* there ; while he was making his report my servant came in, and informed me that the hills were covered with men : on this I prepared for defence, with four Protestants and two others, and stood to my arms all night. In the morning I received a letter from my neighbors, letting me know that neither my person or place should be molested ; I sent for one or two of them, returned my thanks, told them I wished to keep my arms to defend myself from plundering parties ; they said I should, and desired to see me at Bunbrusna. I went there, met some of their leaders who seemed willing to return to their business on an oblivion of what had passed, and requested that I would go to the commanding officer at Mullingar, and acquaint him of it.

As soon as I got home, an express came after me, to let me know that the troops were marching to Multifarnam ; I went there among the acclamations of the people, and proceeded to meet them (the troops,) but it proved a false alarm ; on

my return it was settled that ——— and ——— of Bunbrusna, should go with me to Colonel Blake, of the Northumberland fencibles, commanding-officer at Mulingar from whom I brought the following answer obtained with difficulty: " Colonel Blake cannot enter into any engagement with persons in arms against their Sovereign, but in consequence of my representation he suspends the operation of the troops for a few hours, in expectation of an unconditional submission :" '(this was a similar reply to that given by the justices to complaints they made of grievances.) We returned with the above answer from Colonel Blake, and found that Lord Longford had been at Multifarnam, and had taken the road to Lackin, in order to meet troops coming from Granard; I followed his Lordship, the order was enough for him ; when I returned to them (the Insurgents,) the alarm was given that there were troops on the road from Balnalack, which created a general confusion among them. Now begins the awful situation in which I was for, I believe, half an hour ;—I was to go and meet the troops, in order to postpone the attack, conducted through the Insurgents (who were in general drunk) by some of their leaders ; we had not gone fifty yards along the wall from the Hospital gate * until we were stopped by the people who lined it, presenting at us, swearing we should not pass, and were afterwards seized by others with pikes, pistols, &c. to our breasts, saying we would betray them, &c. &c. this happened two or three times, the same imprecations, &c. continuing, until at last a person came up, whom I addressed, begging if they did not chuse I should go, that I might be put in a place of safety : he seeming to have some authority

* Wilson's-hospital is a charitable Protestant institution, for maintaining, &c. twenty aged men, and an hundred boys, situated within a few miles of Mullingar, County of Westmeath. It was founded by Andrew Wilson, Esq. of Piersfield in said County, who bequeathed the principal part of his property towards its support.

went with me, and though often called to stop, conveyed me safe through them ; immediately after which, I am told, another party followed to put me to death, but were prevented by some others, who would not suffer it. After this escape I got as far as the turn from Bunbrusna, to my house, and just as I was in the act of taking off my hat to ask for the commanding-officer, the field-pieces attached to the Argyle fencibles fired in my front three discharges, before I could get out of the line of the fire—and another man with me : but we fortunately escaped. Whether they were, through mistake, pointed at us or not, I have not heard ; I think not, but over our heads at the Insurgents, who probably appeared on the hill going to the Hospital. As soon as I got clear I made my way to Mullingar, congratulating myself on what I believe you will allow to be a most providential escape, leaving the contending parties to determine the fate of the day.

Having given you a brief detail of the danger by which I was encompassed, I shall inform you of ——* *hair's-breadth escape*—you must know that he passed through Bunbrusna, escorting an artillery-cart of ammunition, &c. the very morning of the rising ; they were to convey it to Edgeworthstown, but as the commanding officer refused to take it from them, though by the route obliged to take it, they marched on with it smartly, and shortly after they left Edgeworthstown it suddenly blew up, the explosion killed the two drivers and five horses, and wounded two yeomen very severely, as also a son of Mr. ——— who I understand is likely to recover.

I now congratulate you on our having the French in our hands :—when they surrendered at Ballinamuck, and the Insurgents were given no quarters, I understand even their French friends fired on them and tumbled many.

Yours, most sincerely.

* His son.

LETTER XXVI.

MULLINGAR, OCTOBER 2, 1789.

SIR,

I RECEIVED your favor, and shall be happy to give you every information in my power, relative to the late Rebellion in Westmeath. The perusal at the first part of your Narrative has afforded me much pleasure—the descriptions are very interesting—and it is pleasing to think that the spirited exertions and glorious success of our brave loyalists, are to be handed down to posterity.

Wilson's Hospital, is a very fine Protestant institution. It is situated about six miles from Mulingar, on the Longford side, and lies between the villages of Multifarnam and Bunbrusna. On Tuesday, the 4th of September 1798, in the middle of the day, a party of armed Insurgents, several of whom were the hospital laborers, ran into the house, with the intention of surprising the Rev. Mr. Radcliffe, who is chaplain and superintendant, and taking the arms. He happened to see them when they were near the door, and had just time to snatch a gun and run to meet them. This opposition, though unassisted, except by a servant boy who carried a blunderbuss, for him, was for that day effectual; as the party thought proper to retreat without accomplishing their purpose. In the scuffle Mr. R. was very severely wounded, and two of the Insurgent Captains slightly.

On Wednesday, the 5th of September at about seven o'clock in the morning, the hospital was surrounded by a prodigious

multitude of Insurgents, men and women, amounting on a moderate computation, to upwards of five thousand. Their cry was for the arms, which Mr. R. being weak from the loss of blood, and not having any one he could depend on, ordered to be delivered to them, on their promise of retiring peaceably. As soon, however, as they had got the arms, they broke in the doors with sledges, and plundered the house of many articles—they even took away the clothes of the old men and boys, and stripped off their shoes and stockings. After they had plundered for an hour, they took Mr. R. prisoner, and brought him to the village of Multifarnam, where he was liberated through the interposition of Mr. Moran, the parish-priest. He was then so fortunate as to get safe into Mullingar, where he was confined by his wounds for eight weeks. The Insurgent army marched from Multifarnam to the crooked wood, five miles from the Hospital, expecting to be joined there by great numbers from the county of Meath; they remained in the wood all the night of Wednesday the 5th, feasting on the fat sheep of the neighboring gentry, and drinking the wine, &c. which they had plundered from different houses.

On Thursday morning they returned to Wilson's-Hospital, took possession of it as a barrack, and were joined by a large body from the county of Longford. Their numbers now amounted to upwards of seven thousand men, remarkably well armed, and so confident were they of victory, that they were frequently heard to defy the army of ten counties. The strength of their position was indeed very great, being surrounded by walls, thick hedges, and plantations. They had taken in the two preceding days, twenty-eight Protestant prisoners, who had not given them any other offence, except that of being *Protestants!* These unfortunate people were now hourly threatened with a cruel death; and as some of them have declared, were on the point of being led out to be butch-

ered, when the report of a cannon at a little distance threw the Insurgents into confusion.

Lord Longford, who had not been apprized of the rising till Wednesday the 5th, used most uncommon exertions to collect a force capable of opposing so large a body of Insurgents with some prospect of success ; and was so fortunate as to join two corps of yeomenry to his own, from Finnae in the county of Meath. With this force, amounting in the whole, cavalry and infantry, to something upwards of one hundred, his Lordship marched towards the Hospital, on Thursday the 6th; and near the village of Bunbrusna, at about four o'clock, P. M. was joined by a detachment of the Argyle fencibles, one hundred strong, with one field piece, commanded by Major Porter. This detachment marched that morning from Granard, a distance of twelve miles and met Lord Longford by appointment.

BATTLE OF WILSON'S HOSPITAL.

As soon as the Insurgents were convinced the army had arrived at this place, they sent five hundred of their stoutest men from the Hospital, armed with muskets and fowling-pieces, and a large body of pikemen, to attack them. The highlanders were at this time posted on the high road, near Bunbrusna, drawn up in very close order, with the field-piece in their centre.

A desperate party of Insurgents issued from the main body, and ran with violence towards the cannon, advancing almost to its muzzle, with a determination to seize it ; but by a discharge of grape-shot, they were made to pay dearly for their temerity. At this time, two of the artillery-men were shot by an Insurgent from behind a hedge.

The infantry now, made so good a use of their muskets, that the Insurgents broke, and were pursued by the cavalry in all directions. A large party fled to the hill of Laney, just by, and were overtaken by the yeomenry, who did great execution among them. Another party got into the house and offices of a wealthy farmer, on the Mullingar road, and from thence fired on the troops ; the thatch taking fire from the wadding of the guns, the houses were consumed ; and it was said, that several of the Insurgents were burned in them. Another party took shelter behind the demesne walls, and in the plantations of the Hospital, but were quickly dislodged by two or three discharges of grape-shot. *At the attack on the cannon*, one Barden the leader, a rich miller, was heard to cry out " Boys, seize the gun, and the day is your own ; then twist your pikes in their Protestant guts, and tear their Orange souls out." Darkness coming on put a stop to the exertions of the military, who lay all night on their arms ; the fencibles on the road, near the Hospital, and the yeomenry in a field behind it. In the middle of the night, a party of insurgents stole unperceived within shot of the yeomenry, and discharged a volley at them, but without effect ; Lord Longford's infantry returned the fire, and twelve men of the Insurgents were found dead in the morning, At break of day, on Friday the 7th of September Major Potter supposing that the Insurgents were in possession of the Hospital, was preparing to batter it, when he was informed they had evacuated the place. The troops then marched into it, and refocilated themselves with wine, beef and mutton ready dressed : a large quantity of provisions having been provided for the French, who were expected by the Insurgents that day. All the black cattle and sheep which had been driven into the Hospital-demesne, were re-

stored to their proper owners. The Insurgents were said to have lost in the engagement and pursuit, near two hundred in killed and wounded. Could the battle have begun two or three hours sooner, the slaughter would have been prodigious. Thousands threw away their arms, and fled In the greatest confusion, on the first report of the cannon, and never again returned to the scene of action.

The loss on the part of the Kings's troops, was only the two artillery-men before mentioned. Thus, under the direction of Providence, were seven thousand Insurgents well armed, and confident in their strength, routed by about two hundred loyalists, who had made a fatiguing march on the day of battle. At the time of the insurrection the Northumberland fencibles, a fine regiment, lay at Mullingar, but were so weakened by sending detachments to different parts, that the commanding-officer thought his whole force barely sufficient for the defence of the town, which was much threatened.

Every circumstance that took place I give you on my own authority, and that of respectable persons, who were present; And I believe the account to be pretty accurate. I have written in a hurry, therefore, hope you will be so good as to dress this up, and make what use you please of it.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

T. R.

Extract of a Letter, dated Calooney, Nov. 4, 1799.

Dear Sir,

Having learned from various sources, that you are about publishing a History of the Irish Rebellion, and that you are very desirous of possessing all the important imformation relative thereto, I take the liberty, although unsolicited, of sending you a brief and accurate account of the battle fought between his Majesty's forces and the Insurgents, at Calooney, in September last. I should have favored you with a notice of it long before, had it not been for the great press of business which has engrossed all my attention; in making reports to the commander-in-chief, and in advising my relatives and friends of what my plan of future operations would be.

I had determined,—if ever the horrors of intestine commotion should be succeeded by the glorious return of peace and good order, and I should be spared,—to make public so much of the scenes as came within my own personal observation. But I rejoice to see abler heads and more ready pens come forward to perpetuate the memory of those who fought, bled and died in the glorious cause of Freedom and of emancipation from Insurrectionary rule.

The present aspect of affairs in Ireland warrants the belief that the war will be brought to a speedy close, as most of the Insurgents have signified their willingness to return to their allegiance and deliver up their arms.

With all due respect,

I remain your most obedient

and most humble Servant,

V. H.

BATTLE OF CALOONEY.

On coming near Calooney, I found the enemy posted on this side of the town, ready to receive me. I accordingly ordered Major Ormsby, with one hundred men to occupy a hill, which covered my right, my left being protected by a river. I then moved forward to the enemy, when a very close and severe action commenced, which lasted near an hour and an half; at length, the very superior number of the enemy enabled him to out-flank the division on my right which was compelled to fall back. At that time perceiving the enemy to make a disposition to surround me, and my ammunition being nearly expended, a retreat became absolutely necessary. From the unfortunate circumstance of one of the gun-horses being shot in the act of harnessing, we were obliged to abandon our two field pieces; but as our ammunition waggon, and the whole of the gun-harness were preserved, the guns became useless to the enemy, who, in consequence, left them behind.

Our loss in this action, (when it is considered that we had the entire of the French and Insurgent army, with nine pieces of cannon, to contend with) was less than might have been expected.—One officer and six rank and file were killed—five officers and twenty-two rank and file were wounded. On the side of the French, by their own account, above twenty were killed, and about thirty wounded, fourteen of whom were very badly, they were brought in here; of these four have since died in the hospital. The number of Insurgents must have borne a greater proporton, but have not exactly been ascertained.

I have great pleasure in expressing my entire approbation of the conduct of the officers and soldiers on this occasion. To Lieutenant-colonel Gough, I have to return my warmest thanks, for the very great zeal and spirit displayed by him—to Major Ormsby my thanks are justly due—as also to Captain

Walter of the Limerick regiment, who, with his light company, was extremely active. I have likewise, to express my obligations to Captain Slessor, of the Royal Irish artillery, for his conduct in the action, and for his great exertions, under a heavy fire, to bring off his guns, as well as Captain Whistler, of the 24th light dragoons, who, with great bravery, met the charge of the French cavalry, and obliged them to retreat.

I have great satisfaction to think, that although we were obliged to retreat, the object of the action was attained—namely, that of saving this town; although from the acknowledgment of the French officers, it was their intention to have attacked it but for the check they got, and believeing that we would not have gone out to meet them, if not supported in our rear; they therefore changed their direction.

TO COLONEL VEREKER,

By the High Sheriff and Grand Jury of the County of Sligo. The High Sheriff in the Chair.

Resolved, that our warmest thanks are justly due, and are hereby presented to Colonel Vereker, of the Limerick regiment, for his very spirited and judicious conduct, when undiscouraged by their superior number and artillery, he marched against the enemy at Calooney, rather than wait their attack; as also for his uncommon exertions and intepidity during a very severe action, by the enemy not only received a considerable check, but were diverted from their intended at-

tack and pillage of the town of Sligo, and induced to direct their line of march another way.

Resolved also, that we cannot too fully express our admiration of the officers and privates under Colonel Vereker's command, upon that occasion, for the spirit of perseverence with which they executed all orders under such uncommon disadvantage and finally accomplished the object of so bold a measure.

JAMES WOOD,
High Sheriff.
C. O'HARA,
Foreman.

LETTER XXVIII.

BALLINA, OCT. 3, 1798.

MY VERY DEAR FRIEND,

I WAS in Dublin the evening the express brought intelligence that the French had landed. I went the same day to Naas; it was eleven o'clock at night when I arrived there; you will admit I had a great escape. The army had marched, I followed, and overtook them at Frankford; we marched from thence to Athlone, where we joined the commander-in-chief's grand army destined for Castlebar; we then marched forward, and encamped at a little village called Baltimore; the next evening we lay at Knock, on the side of the mountain;

from that we proceeded to Tuam, and there encamped, we were then ordered to join General Taylor's brigade, on their march from Sligo. Our regiment (the Armagh) and the Reay fencibles left Tuam camp (consisting of fourteen thousand brave soldiers,) and marched through Castlereagh for Ballaghadareen, where we lay that night; there it was that I met my brother with the light brigade from Blairs—you may conceive what I felt on the occasion. About two in the morning, we marched by Swaineford for Castlebar, but the French had given us the slip and went for Sligo; we encamped at Tubbercurry.

The French and Limerick militia had a skirmish at Calooney; many were killed on both sides—we lost two pieces of cannon;—the same evening we lay near Drumnahair. Our advanced guard pressed so hard after the French, that they left seven pieces of cannon, and a great quantity of ammunition, on the road: the road was dreary and waste, owing to their depredations, the houses being all plundered. Next day we marched upwards of twenty miles, and encamped near Leitrim. They attempted to break one of the bridges down, but the Hessians charged and killed many of them, which forced them to retire—the road was strewed with dead bodies. Near the Cloon they drew up in line of battle, but on our advance they retreated towards Granard. At Ballinamuck they drew up again, and extended their line across a bog, to prevent the cavalry from charging them, and planted their cannon on a hill to the left of the road as it led through the bog: in this order they waited our approach. The light brigade attacked them first, our light company, after a few fires, leaped into their trenches, and dreadful carnage ensued; the French cried for mercy. We ran for four miles before we could get into action—the men forgot all their troubles and fought like furies. We pursued the Insurgents through the bog, the country was covered for miles round with their slain. We

remained for a few days burying the dead—hung General Blake and nine of the Longford militia; we brought an hundred and thirteen prisoners to Carrick-on-Shannon, nineteen of whom we executed in one day, and left the remainder with another regiment to follow our example, and then marched for Boyle, and from that to Cultimagh near Castlebar; the same night we received orders to march for Foxford and relieve that place which had been plundered. On our arrival we fortified the town, casting up barriers across the streets—it is well we used this precaution, for we had no cannon, and the Insurgents next evening surrounded the town in great force, kept up a smart fire for two hours, then gave way; we remained under arms all night. Next day, being Sunday, we brought the Protestant inhabitants with us, and marched for Killala, where we engaged and defeated the Insurgents with great slaughter, making many prisoners whom we hung. A few days after the battle we scoured the country towards the mountains, and after a march of thirty miles in one day returned home, leaving many dead.

Our regiment suffered much being in seventeen engagements. I never suffered so mush as on this expedition, from hunger, want of sleep, and fatigue; marching forty-eight hours without tasting meat, nature was almost exhausted.

Yours, &c.

W. H. G.

The following is an extract of a letter which was received by a Gentleman after his liberation at Castlebar, where he had

been a prisoner during the time it was in possession of the French—it is given in the words of the writer; and is corroborated by the succeeding accounts.

LETTER XXIX.

Killishandra, Sept. 1798.

My Dear Brother,

God only knows my grief of mind for your present situation—your being yet alive is a strong argument that the hearts of all men are in the hands of the Most High.

Some days before the battle of Ballinamuck we were much alarmed here, although we little thought that the French were so near us. The day previous to the battle our yeomen, horse and foot, Carrickgallon and Oakhill men, one hundred and x in number, went to Ballinamuck, on an information that a vast body of Insurgents were there the day before; yet after traversing the mountains, not a man could be seen—they returned by Balinalee and Bunlachey.—That evening expresses from Ballinamuck informed us that the French were there. The yeomen of that place fled to Ballyconnel and Belturbet. The main body of the French lay in Cloon that night; a Lieutenant West had his horse shot under him, while reconnoitreing the enemy—the wounded beast carried his master two miles, when he fell; the helmet was also shot off the Lieutenant's head. The French General and most of the

officers agreed to take some rest in Cloon, giving orders that they should not be suffered to sleep but two hours, the guard let them sleep four; by which time the English army came much nearer than the French expected. Such is the Providence of God; for had they got seven miles farther in the county of Longford, it is said they would have been joined by many thousands, who only waited the coming up of the grand army to lead them. This was the place of General Lake's van-guard skirmished with their rear-guard, and from thence to Ballinamuck, four miles from Ballinalee and four miles from Cloon. When the King's army crossed the Shannon, the towns were illuminated for them, and torches held in the streets to give them light. The French being so closely pursued prepared for an unavoidable battle; they formed on a hill to very great advantage, having a bog on their left, and a bog and lake on their right.

Five flank companies, viz. the Dublin, Armagh, Monaghan, Tipperary, and Kerry, requested General Lake to let them mount behind the Hessians, Carabineers, and Roxburgh, &c. so ardent were they to overtake the enemy. This request was granted, and they soon came up with the foe! The above was our whole force in the action, and no men surely could behave more bravely. Seeing the enemy so advantageously posted, wisdom was needful on the part of our General; a column of our troops faced to the left, and marched behind an eminence, to flank their right wing. Perceiving this, the French retreated to another eminence; to this our artillery marched in front. The enemy had their cannon covered with pikemen, who were about to take our cannon under cover of our own smoke. General Lake aware of their design, ordered the artillery to retreat to another hill, and finding his men so brave, he ordered his men to charge the French through the smoke. This they did; and with a terrible war-shout so overwhelmed the French, that they threw up their arms with

caps on them, yielding themselves prisoners Here I should observe that the whole of the French army was not at this time engaged; four hundred and more remained concealed behind the intrenchments, and resolved by treachery to surprise our men, when attacking the Insurgents: the point was to get them from this hold, a volley or two being fired, our men feigned a retreat. The end was answered; the French rushed out, and our soldiers as suddenly met them; here the contest was desperate! In a little time the French fell down, offering up their arms, and as our men advanced to receive them, they treacherously arose and fired on our generous unguarded men, and then fell again on their knees: the enraged troops rushed on, and killed numbers of them before they could be prevented. Thus they overpowered, disarmed, and made prisoners all the French, before the grand army arrived. The Insurgents expecting no quarters did all possible harm—fired many cannon-shot, but to no effect: they fled into a bog, the whole of which was soon surrounded by horse and foot, who never ceased while an Insurgent was alive; after which the Marquis marched off with his prisoners.

They lay dead about five hundred: I went next day with many others to see them, how awful! to see that healthy mountain covered with dead bodies, resembling at a distance flocks of sheep—for numbers were naked and swollen with the weather. We found fifteen of the Longford militia among the slain. Our loss was twelve—two of which were Hessians, whom the yeomen took for French and fired on.

The sudden progress of such a handful of men into the very centre of our island, was, I think, a clear comment on the words of Solomon, That "the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong."

Thus, that six thousand could not do at Castlebar, five flank companies and a few cavalry effected at Ballinamuck! Livy says, in all human affairs, especially war, fortune hath a

mighty sway; and no where is the event less answerable to the expectation than in war. Plutarch observes, there was no temple in Rome dedicated to wisdom or valor, but a most magnificent one to fortune; signifying that they ascribed their success to Providence, not to their courage or conduct. May the loyalists never lose sight of this lesson.

THAT the *God of armies* enabled our loyalists to oppose the might and power of their determined foes, should be individually acknowledged throughout future ages. To their eternal honor, who gratefully avowed this, are the following resolutions recorded in this NARRATIVE.

KILLISHANDRA, SEPT. 12, 1798.

AT a PUBLIC VESTRY held this day, it was unanimously resolved—

1. That a SOLEMN THANKSGIVING be offered on Sunday next, to

THE LORD GOD OF HOSTS,

for the defeat of *Gallic* invasion and domestic rebellion, in the heart of the kingdom, at BALLINAMUCK, in the county of Longford, on Saturday last, and for the special deliverance of this church and town, from the horrors of war and battle.

2. That our thanks be hereby given to Richard Irwine, of Drumfillah, Esq. for nobly venturing, at the hazard of his life, to reconnoitre the enemy's camp, early on that morning, for communicating important information of their route to the pursuing army, and for kindly relieving the consternation and dismay of this town, by his speedy return, and authentic intelligence.

3. That our thanks be also given to our Loyal Yeomen Corps, both cavalry and infantry, for their vigilence and strenuous exertions to maintain our inestimable Constitution, and the peace of this district, against foreign and domestic forces, both now and at all times.

4. That these resolutions be recorded in the vestry-book, as a memorial of our gratitude to our DIVINE PROTECTOR and *human defenders* of every description—as a testimony to our Children that WE have not altogether forgotten

THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS.

(Signed)

Wm. HALES, Rector,
R. ANDERSON,
Wm. M'CORMICK, } C. War.

Copy of a letter from General Lake to Captain Taylor, private Secretary to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant dated Camp, near Ballinamuck.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1798.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant that finding upon my arrival at Ballaghy that the French army had passed that place from Castlebar, I immediately followed them to watch their motions. Lieutenant Colonel Crawford, who commanded my advanced corps, composed of detachments of Hompesch's and the first fencible cavalry, by great vigilance and activity, hung so close upon their rear, that they could not escape from me, although they drove the country and carried with them all the horses.

After four days and nights most severe marching, my column, consisting of the carbineers detachments of the twenty-third light dragoons, the first fencible light dragoons, and the Roxburgh fencible dragoons, under the command of Colonel Sir Thomas Chapman, Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell, Earl of Roden, and Captain Kerr; the third battalion of light infantry, the Armagh and part of the Kerry militia, the Reay, Northampton, and Prince of Wales' fencible regiments of infantry, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Innes, of the 6th regiment, Lord Viscount Gosford, Earl of Glandore, Major Ross, Lieutenant Colonel Bulkeley, and Lieutenant Colonel Macartney, arrived at Cloone about seven o'clock this morning, where having received directions to follow the enemy on the same line, whilst his Excellency moved by the lower road

to intercept them, I advanced having previously detached the Monaghan light company, mounted behind dragoons to harrass their rear.

Lieutenant Colonel Crawford on coming up with the French rear guard, summoned them to surrender; but as they did not attend to his summons he attacked them, upon which upwards of two hundred French infantry threw down their arms: under the idea that the rest of the corps would do the same thing Captain Packenham, Lieutenant General of Ordnance, and Major General Bradock—upon which I ordered up the third battalion of light infantry, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Innes, and commenced the attack upon the enemy's position. The action lasted upwards of half an hour, when the remainder of the column making its appearance, the French surrendered at discretion. The Insurgents who fled in all directions, suffered severely. The conduct of the cavalry was highly conspicuous. The third light battalion, and part of the Armagh militia (the only infantry that were engaged) behaved most gallantly, and deserve my warmest praise. Lieutenant Colonel Inne's spirit and judgment contributed much to our success.

To Brigadier General Taylor I have to return my most sincere thanks for his great exertions and assistance, particularly on this day—also to Lord Roden, Sir Thomas Chapman, Major Kerr, and captain Ferguson, whose example contributed much to animate the troops. I ought not to omit mentioning Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell, Major Packenham, and Captain Kerr, whose conduct was equally meritorious—and I feel infinitely thankful to all the commanding officers of corps who, during so fatiguing a march, encouraged their men to bear it with unremitting perseverance.

To Captain Packenham, Lieutenant Colonel Clinton (who came to me with orders from Lord Cornwallis) and Major General Cradock, (who joined me in the morning) I am high-

ly indebted for their spirited support; the latter, though early wounded, would not retire from the field during the action.

I cannot conclude my letter without expressing how much our success is to be attributed to the spirit and activity of Lieutenant Colonel Crawford. I beg leave to recommend him as a most deserving officer.

I have the honor to be &c.

G. LAKE.

Copy of the Lord Lieutenant's Letter to the Duke of Portland, relative to the defeat of the French.

St. Johnstown, Co. Longford, 9th Sept. 1798.

My Lord,

When I wrote to your Grace on the 5th, I had every reason to believe, from the enemy's movement to Drumahare, that it was their intention to march to the North, and it was natural to suppose, that they might hope that a French force would get into some of the bays in that part of the country, without a succor of which kind every point of direction for their march seemed equally desperate. I received, however, very early in the morning of the seventh, accounts from General Lake, that they had turned to their right at Drumkerin, and that he had reason to believe that it was their intention to go to Boyle or Carrick on the Shannon; in consequence of

which, I hastened the march of the troops under my immediate command, in order to arrive before the enemy, at Carrick, and directed Major General Moore, who was at Tubbercorry, to be prepared in the event of the enemy's movement to Boyle. On the arrival at Carrick I found that the enemy had passed the Shannon at Ballintra, where they had attempted to destroy the bridge, but General Lake followed them so closely, that they were not able to effect it. Under these circumstances, I felt pretty confident, that one more March would bring this disagreeable warfare to a conclusion; and having obtained satisfactory information that the enemy had halted for that night at Cloone, I marched, with the troops at Carrick, at ten o'clock, on the night of the 7th, to Mohill, and directed General Lake to proceed at the same time to Cloone, which is about three miles from Mohill, by which movement I should be able to join with General Lake in the attack of the enemy, if they should remain at Cloone, or to intercept their retreat, if they should, as it was most propable, retire on the approach of our army. On my arrival at Mohill, soon after day-break, I found that the enemy had begun to move towards Granard; I therefore proceeded, with all possible expedition, to this place, through which I was assured, on account of a broken bridge, that the enemy must pass in their way to Granard, and directed General Lake to attack the enemy's rear, and impede their march as much as possible, without bringing the whole of his corps into action. Lieutenant General Lake performed this service with his usual attention and ability, and the enclosed letter, which I have just received from him, will explain the circumstances which produced an immediate surrender of the enemy's army. The copy of my orders which I enclose will show how much reason I have to be satisfied with the exertions of the troops, and I request that your Grace will be pleased to inform his Majesty, that I have received the

greatest assistance from the General and staff who have served with the army.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CORNWALLIS.

CAMP NEAR GRANARD, SEPT. 8TH, 1798.

MY LORD,

AGREEABLE to your orders, I took up the line of march immediately on receiving my orders, and proceeded with all possible despatch to put them in execution. We made a forced march over a very uneven tract of the country of Longford, and soon came up with the enemy's rear well prepared for an engagement—muskets ready primed and cocked. When within about one hundred rods of the Insurgents, I ordered Lieutenant Hill, a spirited and very valuable officer from the county of Westmeath, with a detachment of the Killala fencibles, to proceed with all possible speed round the brow of the mountain and surprise the enemy by attacking him on the right flank, which would draw off a great part of his force in that direction, and at the same time I would atttack the rear which would impress them with the idea that our force far exceeded theirs, which was not the fact, their force amounting to about one thousand, while ours numbered a few short of three hundred.

The stratagem had the very effect it was designed to produce; the enemy thinking our whole force was thus engaged

on their flank, immediately commenced the attack upon Lieutenant Hill's detachment, by ordering all their muskets and pikemen to the charge which left the rear entirely exposed to the galling fire of the troops under my command. I then gave orders for the battle to commence, when instantly the charge became general. Those of the Insurgents, thus unexpectedly attacked were thrown into the utmost confusion, and dispersed in every direction throwing away their arms, the more easily to effect their escape.

Having completely routed the Insurgents from their very strongest hold, it became easy to compel them to make a general retreat which gave me a good opportunity to commence a most enormous huge slaughter, which lasted nearly two hours; during which time the most horrific scenes presented themselves, the fields strewed with dead and dying; the air pierced through with groans and shrieks of the wounded, and all together exhibited to the eye of the beholder one of the most heart-rending and soul-thrilling spectacles that mortal man ever beheld.

After the enemy had dispersed we proceeded to bury our dead, which amounted to thirteen, while that of the enemy, amounted to upwards of four hundred.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble

and most devoted Servant,

G. LAKE.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-quarters, near St. John's Town.

September 9th, 1798.

Lord Cornwallis cannot too much applaud the zeal and spirit which has been manifested by the army, from the commencement of the operations against the invading enemy, until the surrender of the French forces.

The perseverance with which the soldiers supported the extraordinary marches which were necessary to stop the progress of the very active enemy, does them the greatest credit; and Lord Cornwallis heartily congratulates them on the happy issue of their meritorious exertions.

The corps of yeomenry, in the whole country, through which the army has passed, have rendered the greatest services, and are peculiarly entitled to the acknowledgments of the Lord Lieutenant, for their not having tarnished that courage and loyalty which they displayed in the cause of their King and Country by any acts of wanton cruelty towards their deluded fellow subjects.

LETTER XXX.

Dublin, October 23, 1799.

Anniversary of the Irish Rebellion, 1641.

Sir,

I have looked over your proof sheets, and beg you will accept my thanks for the satisfaction they have afforded. The second part of your narrative contains a great variety of interesting matter. I sincerely hope your laudable exertions may be crowned with success.

Yours sincerely,

T. P.

SUBSTANCE OF A TRIAL AT WEXFORD.

Summer Assizes, 1799.

Phelim Fardy was indicted and tried before Baron Smith, for the murder of a person unknown, at Scollabogue, on the fifth of June, 1798.

First witness before the crown.—Richard Sylvester proved,

that on the fourth of June, 1798, the Insurgents assembled at Scollabogue to a very great number, armed with guns, pikes, and a variety of other weapons ; that about two o'clock in the afternoon, on the same day, they marched to Corbit-hill, near the town of New-Ross : that a party under the command of Captain Murphy, of Loughnaeer, consisting of about three hundred men, were left to guard over the prisoners at Scollabogue : that on the morning of the fifth of June, the day following between the hours of five and six an express came to Captain Murphy to destroy the prisoners for that the army were getting the better at Ross ; Captain Murphy replied he would not without a written order from the General ; that shortly after another express arrived, with the same orders to destroy the prisoners, saying that the King's army were cutting them off ; that they would be immediately there and liberate the prisoners, and that they would be ten times more outrageous if they were released ; Captain Murphy refused, as before, to obey these orders : that shortly after, a third express arrived, saying, that the Priest gave orders to destroy the prisoners.

Upon this authority being mentioned the Insurgents became outrageous, some of them pulled off their clothes with zeal to begin the bloody deed : that witness on seeing the prisoners in the dwelling-house pulling out for execution, turned aside, when he was met by an Insurgent who knew him, who advised witness to come with him, in order to avoid the horrors going on : that on witness going away, another Insurgent struck witness on the back with a pike, and with fury in his looks ordered witness to follow him, saying he would let his guts out if he disobeyed : that witness followed this Insurgent to the barn, where a number of men, women, and children were confined ; and saw the Insurgents with violence endeavoring to set the barn on fire ; that the prisoners shrieking and crying out for mercy, crowded to the back door of the barn,

which they pulled open, and at times pulled the door between them and the Insurgents, till their fingers and hands were cut off and until they were overpowered by a constant supply of bundles of straw on fire flung in upon them, while others were piking and shooting them : that witness saw a child, who had been shattered by the door, when it fell across the frame, force itself almost out of the barn, when an Insurgent on perceiving the child instantly darted his pike into it, when it gave a shriek and expired ! By this time the cries and moans of the prisoners died away : that during the time witness was at the barn, he heard a constant fire kept up at the dwelling-house : that on his return to the dwelling-house he saw a number of dead bodies before the hall-door, some of which he knew ; that he saw one man among the dead on his knees, while the Insurgent women and men were stripping and rifling the bodies of the dead ; that he was near the prisoner, Phelim Fardy, who had a musket in his hand ; that he heard Fardy, call out to them who were rifling the dead, to quit the range of his shot ; that instantly witness saw Fardy present his musket at the man on his knees ; that witness turned about, and on hearing the report of the shot, looked back and saw the man expiring.

Question from the Jury.—Are you certain that the prisoner is the man you saw that day present the musket at the man on his knees ? Answer, I am ; for I have known him these twenty years past, I could not be mistaken.

Mr. Grundy, second witness for the Crown, deposed, that witness was a prisoner with many others, on the fifth of June, 1798, in the dwelling-house at Scollabogue ; the order being given to put the prisoners to death, witness went on his knees and on fear of his fellow prisoners being brought on to execution, he, the witness, went to a window in hopes he might see some person he knew, in expectation of being saved ; that he saw the prisoner, Phelim Fardy, near the hall-door, in the

front of the house, with a musket in his hand, and his hands and face blackened with powder ; that immediately two men took witness, and brought him out forward where he saw two men on their knees among the dead ; that an Insurgent snapped his musket at one of them, that he then struck him with his knife, and presenting a third time, he shot him ; that immediately after Captain Murphy came up to witness, and called him by name, and said he should not be put to death, and put him back into the room where he came from ; that there he saw a man on his knees, who he afterwards found to be a Mr. Frizell ; that he came over and entreated witness to intercede for him ; that immediately after Captain Murphy called out to know if all the prisoners were executed, and came into the room, and on seeing Mr. Frizell he ordered him for execution, when Grandy on his knees begged for his life, that he was a stranger from Dublin. Captain Murphy, enraged at the request, said he was a mind to bring out Grandy for daring to intercede, and have him executed with Mr. Frizell ; that instantly after two Insurgent females came in, and entreated Captain Murphy for the sake of his aged mother and seven sisters entirely unprotected, and but for him must suffer for the necessaries of life, not to put the young man to death ; by which means Mr. Frizell's life was saved.

The execution closed—the prisoner did not produce any witness.

The jury retired for a moment, and brought in a verdict of guilty. Instantly the Judge pronounced sentence of death, in a very awful manner, and regretted he could not order him to an immediate execution, as the heinousness of his crimes so clearly and fully proved, made him a fit subject for public example.

At a trial at the court-martial about a week after the last assizes, it was proved that a man by the name of Miskella was tried, found guilty, and hanged for murders at Scollabogue,

who from his superlative atrocities at Scollabogue was called the *true Roman*. for he would glory in putting to death *Heretics !*

Final particulars relative to the second attack on Hacketts-town.

In the course of the day, the Rev. Mr. Brownrigg rector of the parish (who had been in the house with Mr. Magee from the commencement of the attack) became anxious to receive intelligence from the barracks, as well as to communicate to those who were engaged there, how effectually they were supported by Mr. Magee, and his companions.—He had no hopes of effecting a communication with the barracks until a proposal was made that the wife of Garret Byrne should be sent to her husband ; accordingly, they sent a flag of truce, which it was supposed would put an end to the battle, but this step appeared to Mr. Brownrigg more likely to encourage the Insurgents to greater exertions, he therefore resisted the proposal strenuously, which likewise would have been advantageous to the commanding officer.

A gentleman who headed the loyalists requested that the following should be subjoined, in which the Editor cheerfully acquiesces, his whole intention being impartiality.

Early in the action, Captain Hardy, his wife, two grown up daughters, and a young son of Lieutenant Gardiner were taken prisoners and brought into the Insurgent lines, where they were witnesses of the dreadful slaughter; but justice demands us to say that they were protected from any injury by General Nugent, and a man calling himself Colonel M'Mahagg, who conveyed them to places of safety until the action was over: the same ladies were again taken prisoners at Ballyrahine, and a second time were treated with humanity by the higher class of the Insurgents, though in both places they were often threatened with death by the common fellows.

Ballynakin, June 16th, 1798.

Dear, Sir,

As you have requested from me the particulars relative to the Insurrection in my native town, and being desirous of assisting you in procuring information that cannot be doubted—I send you the following, of which, I was an eye-witness, with the exception of some unimportant transactions of which I am credibly informed.

On the evening of the 7th, the Insurgents were observed to be collecting together, in small numbers in every direction in the town. About 8 o'clock, they commenced their march, in a direction the least apt to be suspected by the inhabitants, by crossing Mr. H.'s field, south of the town, from whence they proceeded West a short distance and struck into the main-road, leading to the Point. After reconnoitreing the town for a short time, they retired, secreting themselves behind the fences and stumps, in every direction. Thus, they lay concealed, observing the movements of the loyalists for the space of half an hour, when they sallied forth and commenced an attack upon the town, by setting fire to a small dwelling-house, that had been abandoned by its inhabitants. In a few minutes the whole town was in an uproar, some running in one direction and some in another. The Insurgents perceiving their force to be too strong, beat a retreat.—They retired a short distance into an open field and halted, sending two or three of their number, to observe the movements of the loyalists. In a few minutes they returned, reporting that the loyalists were collecting in every direction; and from appearances preparing to attack them. Upon receiving this information the Insurgents retreated into a small piece of low-land and encamped for the night.

Their second attack upon this town, was on the evening of the 10th, when they marched up Broad-street and commenced an attack upon a beer-shop, kept by one F. G., by whom, they were bravely resisted, for the space of two hours; after which, they retired behind the dwelling-house of Mr. R——.

Their third attack was made upon the dwelling-house of Mr. G.; they entered the house, and after some few minutes deliberation, proceeded with the work of destruction; some climbing upon the roof, some into the windows, others mounting the chimney, others contriving to destroy the building, in the quickest manner possible. By this time the yeo-

menry began to collect, and the Insurgents perceiving it no longer safe to proceed in this daring manner, took to their heels and ran in every direction.

Yours, &c.

with due respect.

G. D. J.

Origin of the parties which sprung up in the early part of the Irish Rebellion, as given by W. C. Taylor Esq.—He says—

On the 23d of May the insurrection broke out in the counties of Kildare and Carlow. The peasants had no arms but clumsy pikes, and a few guns in bad order; they were of course easily defeated. At Naas and Kilcullen the royalists were victorious with little loss, but the Insurgents suffered very severely. All the prisoners taken by the soldiers were hanged without ceremony, and there is reason to believe that many shared their fate who had not at all participated in their enterprise. The only part of Kildare in which the Insurgents obtained success was Prosperous, where a detachment of the North Cork militia, headed by Captain Swayne, was surprised and cut to pieces. The Captain is said to have been more than ordinarily severe in the affliction of military executions, and to have fallen by the hand of a man whose house he had burned. When the news of these events reached Dublin, the Lord Lieutenant issued a proclamation, giving notice that his "Majesty's general officers had orders to punish according to martial law, by death or otherwise, as their judgment should

approve, all persons acting or in any manner assisting in the Rebellion." It is a lamentable proof of the hardness of heart and virulent spirit of revenge produced by civil dissensions, to find, when this proclamation was communicated by message to the House of Commons, that Colonel Barry (the present Lord Farnham) actually proposed to give martial law a retrospective effect, and subject to its operations the state-prisoners in Dublin. Even Lord Castlereagh reprobated such a proposal, and, in pathetic terms, besought his violent supporters not to reduce the nation to despair.

The cruelties committed by the North Cork militia, by the yeomanry, and a portion of the magistracy in the county of Wexford, provoked an insurrection there more fierce and calamitous than in any other part of Ireland. The tortures inflicted by the military tribunals were surpassed by those which individuals were permitted to use at their own discretion. A Sergeant, nicknamed *Tom the Devil*, from his ingenuity in devising torments, used to put on the pitched cap, with melting pitch, which, trickling into the eyes of the victims, added blindness to their other pains. Another invention was, to cut the hair in the form of a cross close to the roots, and laying a train of gunpowder in the furrow set it on fire, and repeat the process until human endurance could bear no more. A tall officer in the same regiment acquired the name of *The Walking Gallows*, for consenting to become on several occasions a substitute for a gibbet, when it was deemed necessary in an inconvenient place to inflict the punishment of half-hanging, or even death. The deliberate murder of twenty-eight prisoners in the town of Carnew by the yeomanry in the presence of their officers; the burning of houses and Roman Catholic chapels, superadded to the tortures and whippings, drove the peasantry to arms. They were headed by two priests who sympathized in the sufferings of the people, and were, besides, irritated at the destruction of their own

houses. The Insurgents were divided into two disorderly bodies, which did not act in concert. One was easily defeated by the yeomen of Carnew; the other was more fortunate, and not only defeated, but cut to pieces a detachment of the North Cork at Oulart Hill.

Cowards perpetrated the greatest enormities on both sides. The massacres in Wexford were the work of those who had not courage to share in the perils of the campaign; and on this occasion, a frightful crime was committed by some runaways from the battle of Ross. A number of loyalists, some of whom were catholics, had been seized by the Insurgents, as hostages for the safety of any of their friends that might be made prisoners, and were confined in the house and barn of Mr. King at Scullabogue. Some of the fugitives from Ross determined on the massacre of all these unfortunate beings; pleading in their excuse the examples set them by the yeomenry at Carnew and Dunlavin. The prisoners in the house were shot; the barn where the rest were confined was set on fire; and all within burned to ashes.

The defeat at Ross was followed by an equally severe repulse at Arklow. The royalists owed this victory principally to the skill and valor of Colonel Skerrett, of the Durham fencibles, but for whom the town would have been deserted as scandalously as Wexford, and Dublin itself consequently exposed to the most emminent danger. The Wexford Insurgents, by this defeat, lost their last chance of success, and were forced to wait inactively until government had collected its strength for their destruction.

Ulster had been, as we have already stated, the parent of the Irish conspiracy; but the disagreement between the leaders of the United Irishmen, the flight of some chiefs, and the arrest of others, had so disconcerted the plans of the Union, that the grester part of the province continued tranquil. When the news of the insurrection in Wexford, however, reached

the north, a considerable number assembled in the neighborhood of Antrim, and by a furious attack nearly made themselves masters of the town. Not discouraged by their defeat, they prepared to form an encampment; but learning that their efforts would not be seconded by the other counties, and that the war in Wexford was assuming a religious character, the malecontents, who were mostly Protestants, threw away or surrendered their arms, and returned quietly to their own homes. Inspired by similar sentiments, a number of Insurgents in the county of Down took up arms, and made several spirited attacks on the royal forces. They were attacked at Ballynahinch by General Nugent; and after a desperate engagement, in which the success obtained by valor was lost by want of discipline, were finally defeated and irretrievably broken. Thus terminated the insurrection in Ulster; and the government was now able to direct all its forces against the county of Wexford.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

THE responsibility which, at all times, and under all circumstances, attaches to an independent editor of a Public Journal or a compiler of an 'Impartial Narrative' is so great, that few will venture to incur it;—Indeed, there are those who will not consent to become the chroniclers of transaactions, however momentous they may be, unless the recording of such transactions shall be acknowledged a public benefit. And who is there in this enlightened age that will deny that the record of scenes enacted by an infuriated and tumultuous mob, on the plains of Timahoe, Newtown-Barry, and on the summit of Vinegar-hill is a public benefit? It is so for reasons which I shall here specify;—and

First, the very overwhelming and decisive victories which a handful of brave loyalists could achieve over the hordes of fierce and savage barbarians, tends at once to strike terror into the discontented, and to prevent them from re-enacting those heart-rending and soul-chilling scenes. *Secondly*, it inspires confidence, and creates a love and veneration for the King and constitution, in those who, ordinarily, are of a docile and peaceable temper.

Again; it is obvious from the very nature of things, that a record of enormous transactions and 'huge slaughters,' creates in the young mind a spirit of enquiry, and leads him to admire deeds of noble daring, and to imitate those, who, in

the hour of peril are seen flocking around the standard of their glorious constitution and Sovereign.

I will here revert to the History of Ireland from 1798 to 1800 which has not been noticed particularly in the foregoing pages.

"Ireland was a subject of frequent inquiry and animadversion; but ministers represented the circumstances as too critical for public discussion; and, on the 29th of June, parliament was prorogued. Before the prorogation, the storm which long had been gathering in Ireland at length burst out, and the sister island became a scene of rebellious uproar. Having seen the fatal effects of coercion that was attempted towards the colonies, the British minister, from the latter years of the American war, adopted towards Ireland a much more liberal and enlightened system of policy. The penal statutes against the Roman Catholics were repealed; they held their land on the like terms with the Protestants; they enjoyed, in short, every right and franchise in common with the former, saving only the offices of state, and the privilege of sitting in parliament. The Irish Catholics deemed themselves injured by the restrictions which continued, instead of being favored by the relief bestowed; and desired a participation in the privileges that were still withheld. The Protestants, considering the Catholics as still unaltered, conceived that the admission of a sect so superior to their own in number, to an equality of privileges, would be eventually a surrender of their own acquisitions and posessions: outnumbering them and overpowering them in parliament, the Catholics might claim and recover the possessions of their ancestors, of which they very naturally deemed the Protestants usurpers. The lower classes of Catholics, grossly ignorant and superstitious, and governed by their priests, were inflamed with the greatest rancor against the Protestants, whom they abhorred as heretics, as well as detested as interlopers. These were their relative sentiments at the time the French revolution began to agitate all the neighboring countries. Whatever sentiments might be entertained of the concomitant excesses, the revolution itself was imputed to the obstinate perseverance of the old government in its abuses. When the extraordinary events happened, on the 10th of August, 1792, which overturned the French monarchy, the hopes of the reforming parties, both in England and Ireland, were equally elated: they now thought their wishes would infallibly be accomplished, and that the dread of the people would operate so powerfully upon their rulers, that these would hardly venture any longer to reject their demands, with such terrifying consequences before their eyes, of the King of France's opposition to popular demands. To promote the changes which they desired, certain persons formed a society to which they gave the name of United Irishmen. This institution, projected and organized by Wolfe Tone, proposed to connect the whole Irish nation together, with the professed purpose of a general melioration of their condition, by a reform of parliament, and an equalization of Catholic with Protestant privileges, without any exceptions civil or political. The plan of union was formed on unity of object, connexion of instruments, and a co-operation of means, that combined secrecy of proceeding with efficacy of counsel and conduct. No meeting was to consist of more than twelve persons; five of these meetings were represented by five members in a committee, vested with the management of all their affairs: from each of these committees, which were styled "baronial," a deputy attended in a superior committee, that presided over all those of the barony or district. One or two deputies from each of these superior committees composed one of the whole county, and two or three from every county committee composed a provincial committee. The provincial committees chose in their turn five persons to superintend the whole business of the union: they were elect-

ed by ballot, and only known to the secretaries of the provincial committees, who were officially the scrutineers. Thus, though their power was great, their agency was invisible, and they were obeyed without being seen or known. Whether the designs of these associates were originally to effect a complete separation of Ireland from Britian, has not been ascertained as a fact; but there is no doubt that, in the progress of their concert, they had formed such a project; and that parliamentary change, and Catholic emancipation, were only pretexts with the heads and principal agents of this confederacy in order to unite the greater numbers in the execution of their designs. The Protestants, persuaded that whatever their purpose might be, the ferment which they were agitating must be inimical to the existing establishments, under the protection of which they held their privileges and property, formed counter associations, and assumed the name of *Orangemen*, (hence the language of the Catholic Insurgents at the battle of Wilson's Hospital,—p. 171,) in honor of King William, the vindicator of Protestant security, and the establisher of Protestant property and power in Ireland. The Orange-men proposed to disarm the Catholics. Bodies of these associated to resist the attempts, and assumed the name of *defenders*. Between the Orange-men and defenders, various feuds took place, accompanied with great disorder, ferocity, and depredations, with some bloodshed on both sides. The United Irishmen did not immediately amalgamate with the defenders, who were rather violently outrageous than systematically designing. In them, however, they saw, ready and willing instruments, when their own deep laid schemes should be mature for open and avowed execution. Neither the prevalent broils nor the several mechinations were unknown to the French rulers; they despatched one Jackson, a native of Ireland, and a Protestant Clergyman, but now an emmissary of France, as a spy, to Britain and to Ireland, in order to sound the dispositions of the people. Jackson, in Ireland, formed a connexion with Wolfe Tone, Hamilton Rowan, and some of their associates, and proposed a plan of Insurrection, in order to facilitate a French invasion. In England, Jackson had trusted his treasonable schemes to an intimate friend, one Cockayne, an attorney. This person communicated the projects to Mr. Pitt; and undertook to accompany his friend to Ireland, in order farther to discover his intentions and plots to government, from which he was to receive the sum of three hundred pounds, if, through his means, the capital conviction of his friend should ensue. Cockayne being thus engaged to accompany his friend to Ireland, and pretending to participate in the plot, was introduced to Rowan and other conspirators. A plan was formed for concerting a French Invasion of Ireland: Jackson wrote several letters to correspondents abroad, explaining the state of Ireland and the outlines of the project. The letters being sent to the post-office, Cockayne, who had perused them all, gave information to government: the letters were seized; Jackson was tried; Cockayne was the sole oral evidence; but the papers coinciding with his testimony, rendered the case so clear, that the jury without hesitation found the defendant guilty. Jackson was condemned to die; but by suicide anticipated execution. By this discovery the correspondence with France was suspended; Tone and Rowan made their escape. Lord Fitzwilliam was now arrived in Ireland, commissioned, as he conceived, to terminate all disputes in that country, by making the concessions which the Roman Catholics demanded. Such also was the general persuasion of the Irish themselves: but as it was frustrated, and Lord Fitzwilliam recalled, the discontents became deeper and more extensive than ever. From this time the united Irishmen proceeded with more despatch and decision in their arrangements; a military organization took place in the several provinces; arms were procured, pikes fabricated, and

every preparation was made to enter upon the execution of their schemes. The Chiefs, and men of superior abilities and weight that had now joined the association, intended nothing less than a thorough revolution, and an abolition of all Church establishments; while the common people sought principally to be discharged from the payment of tithes and ecclesiastical dues to the Protestant clergy; in order to obtain which it was easy to persuade them that a total change of government was necessary. The activity of the leaders was indefatigable, and most extensively successful: those of their numbers who had absconded on the discoveries made by, or through Cockayne, were now in France, and had settled a correspondence between their Irish associates and the French Government. A proposal was made, by which the French were to assist the Irish with a considerable body of forces, to enable them to throw off their connexion with England, and form themselves into a republic. The offer was accepted; and Lord Edward Fitzgerald and Mr. Arthur O'Connor were appointed to settle the terms of a treaty. For this purpose they went to France, met General Hoche in the summer of 1796, and arranged the business of the projected invasion, which was destined to be executed the following November. In the latter end of autumn, intelligence arrived from France that the expedition was deferred to the following spring, when England should be invaded at the same time. Hence it happened that, when the French armament arrived on the coast of Ireland, towards the close of the year, the Irish that were to second them, being wholly unapprized of their coming, were in no state of preparation, and the determined spirit of loyalty displayed by the friends of government awed its adversaries: thence the French had not landed, but had returned to their own coast. The government was indeed very vigilant, and had long before this time procured an act to be passed authorizing the magistrates to proclaim martial law, in case of imminent danger.

A proclamation accordingly was made, and put in force at the arrival of the French. The disappointment of this expedition did not discourage the conspirators from prosecuting their plans. The Chiefs of the Irish association sent Dr. Macnevin, an able man, of great importance in the combination, as minister to France. He informed the French government that if they would invade Ireland, the numbers ready for Insurrection were immense, that a hundred and fifty thousand would rise in Ulster alone. He also laid before them a plan of attack, demanded a supply of arms and money, and particularly recommended that the French plenipotentiaries, then treating at Lisle with Lord Malmsbury, should be instructed to make the dismemberment of Ireland from England a condition of the peace; he solemny engaged, that all the advances made for the service of Ireland, and all the expenses already incurred, should be reimbursed as soon as affairs were settled, and its independence secured. France agreed to their other requests, but the government declared its inability at present to supply them with money. Meanwhile this conspiracy proceeded with such secrecy, that, though the penetration of the Irish government discovered there were strong grounds for suspicion, yet no precise information was procured: they did not till the month of April 1797, obtain certain intelligence of the transactions that were carried on in many parts of the kingdom. Government learned that, on the 14th, a number of seditious people were to meet at a house at Belfast: on this information, it was entered by a party of the military, and two of the association committees were found actually sitting: their papers were seized, and sufficient documents appeared to bring at once to light the nature and extent of the plot in agitation. This important discovery led to others in various places, and the danger and magnitude of the conspiracy was clearly ascertained. Government immediately employed precautions of every kind; enforced the act against illegal conventions;

searched for arms, and seized great quantities. In operations requiring military force and summary execution, where there is a collision of attack and resistance, bloodshed is unavoidable; but the malcontents set the example of atrocious violence, by plundering houses and murdering the innocent inhabitants. The soldiers were not slow in retaliation, nor always discriminating in punishment. Both parties of Irishmen were inflamed by reciprocal suffering, and the acts of both bore the stamp of infuriated passion, and unrestrained licentiousness. The conspirators, first in recent transgression, were the more atrocious in barbarous acts; but their advocates imputed their conduct to the indignant resentment of men that had suffered long under systematic oppression, and in endeavoring by the most violent exertions to break their chains on the heads of their oppressors, little cared though these oppressors should be crushed in the struggle; and Ireland was now a scene of disorder, robbery, and massacre. In this situation of things, the whig party, consisting chiefly of men of similar sentiments both in general and temporary politics with those of Messrs. Fox, Sheridan, Erskine, and their coadjutors in England, in May, proposed the conciliatory measure of parliamentary reform. In contentions between government and numerous bodies of the governed, conciliation is generally the soundest policy, if adopted before the passions be violently inflamed, and the projects matured. Conciliatory measures, when adopted, appeased America, and if the system had been uniform, there is a moral certainty, that the war and all its dreadful consequences might have been prevented: spontaneous sacrifice on the part of the French monarchy, if offered at the first appearance of a spirit of liberty, might have preserved the greater part of what by too long tenacity it was compelled to relinquish: but conciliation, to be effectual, must be offered in the early stage of discontent, before resentment contracts inveteracy, and concerted resistance requires

force. After rigid rejection of suppliant petitions, concession offered to men in arms appears either the retraction of precipitancy, or submission of fear; and, instead of restoring confidence and attachment, encourages revolt by representing it as likely to succeed. Lenient measures were then too late; government and Legislature acted wisely in rejecting them at so advanced a period of the conspiracy: thwarted in this attempt, the whigs withdrew from parliament.

Ireland was at this time in a deplorable state: the occupations in civil life were deserted, and the people were intent every where on preparations for war: those who were peacefully disposed could promise themselves no security; they were plundered by the malcontents, who collected in numerous armed bodies, and committed every species of outrage and devastation. Proclamations were issued, threatening severe punishments on the offenders; but they were as little regarded as the offers of pardon to those who forsook the rebellious associations. The conspirators projected a general Insurrection, to take place in the summer of this year, and to be seconded by France. In July they received information that two armaments, one from Holland, and the other from Brest, were ready to sail for Ireland whenever they could elude the British fleets; they therefore postponed the intended rise, and waited with impatience for the arrival of the promised auxiliaries; but the defeat of the Dutch fleet in October was a fatal blow to their hopes. France they knew had for maritime effort trusted chiefly to Spain and Holland, and their expectations from both had been blasted by Jervis and Duncan. But another fortunate circumstance for the British interests in Ireland was, that the object of the malcontents and of the French republic were totally different. The Irish conspirators sought the formation of their country into a republic, independent of Britain and also of France. The French proposed to subdue Ireland, and to form it into a government like the Batavian

republic, dependent on themselves. The Irish, considering their own object, desired the directory to send ten thousand men, which would be a very efficient body of auxiliaries, without being dangerous to the principals. The French, to promote their purpose, proposed to send fifty thousand men, which they did not doubt would be able to model the whole island according to their views and pleasure. Finding the Irish, however, averse to their plan of invasion, they turned their attention to objects which they deemed more advantageous and more practicable. They now therefore received the propositions of the conspirators with great coolness; and the Irish, despairing of any effectual assistance from the French republic, prepared for Insurrection, without waiting for co-operation from the continent. In spring 1798, they employed themselves in dispositions for war: and meanwhile, in every part of the country, were guilty of the most savage atrocities. The benevolent spirit of Lord Moira, still hoping that conciliation might be effectual, proposed pacificatory measures, but government assured his Lordship that any proffers of the kind would be unavailing, and Lord Moira's conciliatory motion was rejected. Such was the secrecy of the chief conspirators, that though the plot was discovered, yet the names of the plotters were not found out. At last one Reynolds, who had become an united Irishman, reflecting on their atrocious designs, was struck with remorse, and communicated their intentions to a friend, who prevailed on him fully to disclose the business and agents to government. On this discovery, fourteen of the chief delegates were seized in the house of Mr. Oliver Bond. Lord Edward Fitzgerald escaped, but being afterwards discovered, he resisted the officers sent to apprehend him, in the scuffle was mortally wounded, and died a few days after. The remaining conspirators, now grown desperate, proposed a general Insurrection, to be executed in the night of the 24th of May: but Captain Armstrong, a

militia officer, who had insinuated himself into their confidence, and pretended to be an accomplice, apprized government of their designs. The two Sheares of Dublin, Neilson of Belfast, and several other Chiefs, were arrested on the 23d of May, and the Metropolis was put into a state of perfect security against any attempt. The conspirators, thus deprived of their leaders, though scantily provided with arms and necessaries, determined notwithstanding, to execute their project of general Insurrection. They began rebellion, on the 24th of May, by attacking Naas, a town fifteen miles from Dublin; but they were repulsed by a body of Irish militia, under Lord Gosford. A band of Insurgents at the same time took possession of the hights near Kilcullen, but they were dislodged by General Dundas, and between one and two hundred were killed and taken. To detail the various engagements which took place in this warfare, would exceed the space which the plan of the history allows; I shall therefore confine myself to the chief agents, operations, and results. The Insurgents fighting with undisciplined courage, were frequently victorious over smaller numbers; but inflamed by their furious priests, where they prevailed, they exercised a savage barbarity unknown in the annals of civilized society. The regular soldiers of the loyalists were not numerous, but the Irish militia fought with distinguished fidelity, valor, and effect, against the Insurgents. The English militia being at their own instance permitted by an act of parliament to assist their loyal fellow subjects, several regiments crossed the channel, and were most powerfully instrumental in supporting the cause of government. To pass over desultory skirmishes, the first great scheme of Isurgent operation was in the counties of Carlow and Wexford: a large body of them having been repulsed at the former place, being re-inforced, proceeded to Wexford, amounting to fifteen thousand: part of the garrison marched out to give them battle, but they were surrounded and entirely

defeated. In a few days after the Insurgents took the town of Wexford, and a great number of prisoners. In their farther progress being repulsed and infuriated by revenge and priestly instigation, they murdered their prisoners in cold blood. General Lake, on the 21st of June, gained a complete victory, the consequence of which was, that this tumultuary Insurrection was entirely crushed. In the north of Ireland an Insurrection also broke out, but the Insurgents were completely overcome at Ballynahinch, and the whole Insurrection was quelled before the end of June. After that time, various scattered parties, taking refuge in the fastnesses and mountains, infested the adjacent country, but were rather marauding banditti that disturbed the police than Insurgents that rebelled against the government. The most formidable of these parties was commanded by the daring and noted adventurer, Holt, who at length surrendered himself to government. The discovery and seizure of the principal conspirators prevented this Insurrection being carried on with any efficient concert; in the South, it consisted of detached multitudes driven by their priests to desperate valor and savage cruelty; in the North, chiefly inhabited by Protestant dissenters, it was by no means so general in extent, nor so merciless in operation. The Insurrection of Ireland, appearing both to the viceroy and to his Majesty to require a Lord-Lieutenant who could act in a military as well as a civil capacity, Lord Camden therefore requested to be recalled, and the King appointed marquis Cornwallis his successor. The Insurrection being finished, the new viceroy adopted a plan of mingled firmness and conciliation, which, executed with discriminating judgment, tended to quiet Ireland, and prepare matters for a permanent plan to prevent the recurrence of such pernicious evils, and to promote the industry and prosperity of the country. The French with a small body attempted to revive Insurrection in Ireland, and surprising our troops

by their unexpected appearance, gained a temporary advantage; but were soon overpowered and captured by Lord Cornwallis. A French squadron of one ship of the line (the Hoche) and eight frigates, with troops and ammunition on board, destined for Ireland, was, on the 1st of October, taken or dispersed by a British squadron under sir John Borlase Warren: the whole French equipment, with the exception of two frigates, fell ultimately into the hands of the English. Among the prisoners taken in the Hoche was Wolfe Tone, who being tried and condemned, hastened out of life by a voluntary death."

The following extracts from the testimony of one Thomas Reynolds who was instrumental in exposing a plot against the government will be found very interesting.

"It was about the 25th February, 1798, that, in travelling with Mr. Cope to Castle-Jordan in order to obtain possession of some lands to which we were jointly entitled, I was induced by the persuasion of this gentleman, on whose friendship and honor I had the most implicit reliance, to disclose to him, in part, the extent of the conspiracy. I added, that in order to enable government to counteract it entirely, I would procure a man who could get to the bottom of it, and detect the leaders. In consequence of this I did, in the name of a third person, communicate to Mr. Cope for government all I knew of the plans and views of the United Irishmen, and particularly the proceedings of the meeting at Bond's of the 19th of

February, 1798, which I had got from Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and the intended (Provincial) meeting of the 12th of March, also at Bond's, which meeting was in consequence apprehended.

"In order to procure more certain knowledge of the intended meeting of the 12th of March, I applied to Bond, at whose house Daly had said it was to be held; and Bond referred me to John M'Cann as the man who was to regulate that part of the business, and to give any information that might be necessary about it. I accordingly applied to M'Cann, who said, that unless I brought up the returns from the county committee of Kildare, I could not be admitted to the provincial, neither could he give me any information thereof till I showed him said returns. On communicating this to Mr. Cope, he advised me to go down to my county, which I accordingly did, on the Saturday week before the arrest of the meeting at Bond's. On the Sunday I went to Castledermott, where for the first time I met my officers, and settled returns of men and arms, &c., after which I called upon Daly at Kilcullen, who I knew was in possession of the returns, and who wrote a copy of them and gave it to me. On bringing this paper up to Dublin, I showed it to M'Cann, and asked him the time of the meeting of the provincial; when he said that it was very odd there was not any increase in the returns since the last meeting, and that the delegates must be in town on the Sunday evening. M'Cann then promised that he would breakfast with me on Sunday, 11th March, 1798, at my house, No. 4 Cumberland-street, and tell me all particulars as to the time and place of the provincial meeting. Accordingly, M'Cann did come on the next morning, Sunday, to breakfast; but no particular conversation took place, as Mrs. Reynolds was present.

"After breakfast, M'Cann and I walked to the bottom of Church-street, when he told me that, at ten o'clock on Monday

morning, I must be at Oliver Bond's, and desired me to be punctual, as particular business would be done. Not wishing to be at the meeting, as I knew it was to be arrested, I wrote a note to Bond, which I sent on Monday morning, stating that Mrs. Reynolds was taken very ill; that I could not consequently bring my money at the hour appointed, and begged him to make an apology for me to M'Cann on that account."

The government being fairly in possession of the foregoing information, a warrant was issued by the Secretary of State, and put into the hands of Mr. Swan, a magistrate for the county of Dublin, who proceeded to the house of Oliver Bond, on the 12th of March, attended by thirteen Sergeants in colored clothes, and, being familiar with the pass-word—"Where's M'Cann? Is Ivers from Carlow come"—gained admittance to the meeting and arrested all the persons there assembled. There were—among the leaders named in the warrant besides Bond—Dr. MacNeven, Sampson and Emmet, both barristers of great eminence, and Lord Edward Fitzgerald.

Extracts from a journal of Lady Sarah Napier.

MONDAY, MARCH, 5TH.

"News came from London this week that four or five men were taken up at Margate, trying to escape to France with some plot; for that, having come to Dover they put their baggage on a cart, and followed it themselves on foot towards Margate—offered immense sums—seemed to know the way—that many odd things caused suspicion, and they were apprehended. One of them said he was Arthur O'Connor, and going abroad with the other gentlemen; that on the cart was found boxes with papers expressive of their being a sort of ambassadors, from the United Irishmen to the Directory at Paris, to give assurances of the good reception the French would meet with in Ireland, and to *press* their immediate

coming. The gentlemen denied the baggage was theirs. They were carried to the privy council, and put into the Tower.

"This is all the substance I have gleaned from the little I have heard; and, on the other hand, it is *since* said that all these suspicious circumstances are a fabrication, and that nothing can be found against O'Connor of any sort. Yet Mr. Ogilvie writes me word, it is generally believed, he will be hanged; but many at first said he would get off. I will try to be more mistress of the subject against you read this, which I have carefully kept from your hearing as long as I thought it dangerous to give your thoughts such serious grounds for working them on, which in your weak state is hurtful and retards recovery. I have since heard from Mr. Henry that Edward never was troubled about O'Connor, and said that he had nothing *odd* with him but 1200 guineas.

"He is to be tried at the Kent Assizes.

March, 1798.

"It was fortunate I kept O'Connor's business from you, as it at first appeared linked with one much more interesting to us all; but *I believe* I may say with truth, that it was the artful management of government so to dispose the scenery, that the most knowing ones were taken in *at first;* but that it is certain that an event which took place *here* is no way whatever the consequence of this English business, but a mere repetition of Russel and Nelson's business, and will end the same way, to the disgrace of government. However, here is the story:—

"(Mr. Pelham was dying, and therefore, poor man, is free from *this* business. Lord Castlereagh was sent for *express* from Dundalk, to do Mr. Pelham's business.)

Mails came from London, and a council called, and *then* determined to take up many U. I. M.; for early on Monday,

12th, messengers were sent to Oliver Bond's house, to take up all then sitting at a committee; when they entered the house, the table was full of papers: a sergeant said, 'If you don't all hold up your hands, I will shoot you.' The papers seized were of the utmost importance, and carried to council. Counsellor Emmett, Oliver Bond, Jackson the ironmonger, Sweetman the brewer, and others, were taken. Counsellor Sampson made his escape; Dr. MacNevan was taken in his own house; and report made a thousand stories of where Edward was. Some said at the committee, others *at Dr. MacNevan's;* that the sheriff seeing him, said to the messengers, 'Is not Lord Edward in your warrant?' 'No;' upon which Edward walked in the streets; and then heard a separate warrant was out for him, on which he disappeared, and has never been heard of since.

"The separate warrant went by a messenger, attended by Sheriff Carlton, and a party of soldiers, commanded by a Major O'Kelly, into Leinster-house. The servants ran up to Lady Edward, who was ill with the gathering in her breast, and told her; she said directly 'There is no help, send them up:' they asked very civilly for her papers and Edward's and she gave them *all.* Her apparent distress moved Major O'Kelly *to tears;* and their whole conduct was proper. They left her, and soon returned (Major Boyle having been with two dragoons to Frescati, and taken such papers as were in their sitting-room, and not found Edward) to search Leinster-house for him, and came up with great good-nature to say, 'Madam, we wish to tell you our search is in vain, Lord Edward has escaped.' Dr. Lindsay returning from hence went to Leinster-house to her, and there found her in the greatest agitation, the humor quite gone back, and he was a good deal alarmed for her; but, by care, she is, thank God, recovered.

"Mrs. Pakenham wrote *that* night to my sister a letter I

hope you will see, for it was trying to make the matter as light as she could to my poor sister, yet forced to say what, of course, she heard from Mr. P. and Lord Castlereagh.

THURSDAY, 15TH.

"I heard from Mr. Berwick that government had ordered no mention of this trans ction should appear *in any paper*. He told me of the strange absurd reports of their having behaved so ill in the searches, &c.; and I told him Lady Edward had written to thank Major O'Kelly for his humane conduct.

"My sister had promised to go again, but did not. I heard daily from Lady Edward, and found she had recovered her spirits in so sudden a manner, that everybody is convinced she knows where he is, and that he is safe and innocent. I sent her 20*l.* in case she wanted ready money, but she returned it, and sent me word she had plenty, for that they had some by them, and that she was going to take a house to get out of Leinster-house, which was grown detestable to her, and to have a quiet home of her own to lie-in in. She bade me tell my sister Leinster to be *quite, quite* easy. To *write* would be folly in *her*, and indeed in *us, for all letters are opened now;* so I only wrote to Mrs. Johnston, and made a child direct it, desiring *her* to send for Mr. Ogilvie, and show it him. We know nothing yet of how my poor sister will take it—I fear very badly. Government intended a proclamation to take Edward, but thought better of it.

"I was surprised by a visit from Captain M**. *He* began about Edward: I said I was sure he was innocent, though he made no secret of his opinions, but that nobody dreaded a revolution more, from the goodness of his heart, and that he only ran off, I was sure, from the dread of prison. 'But,' said M., 'surely he knew the consequence of sitting at a committee?' 'I believe he never was there.' 'Oh! I beg your pardon,' said M., 'he was seen there, as I understand.' 'I am sure,' said I, 'you think your authority good, very naturally, but *I doubt* every authority.' 'But surely,' said he, 'they would not dare to take him up without sufficient grounds?' 'If I had not *seen it done* twice here, I should think as you do; but I know all their ways too well, and you will see that I am right.' We then talked of poor Doyle, of M**'s own situation, who is aid-de-camp to Lord Clanricarde, with whom he was in Corsica, and whom he likes of all things. He spoke with the greatest regard of you, came down on purpose to inquire about you, and says he will come whenever you are able to see him. He told me of a servant of Mr. Lee's being killed by a soldier's bayonet the day before in the streets, because some men, among whom was this servant, were seducing soldiers; that Lord Tyrawly came among them, and tried to send them away. This servant was impertinent to him: he drew his pistols, and a soldier struck the man, who died on the spot."

The very day before the arrest of the meeting at Bond's, a conversation, which we find thus detailed by the informer himself, took place between him and his noble patron:—"About four o'clock, on Sunday the 11th of March, I called at Leinster House, upon Lord Edward Fitzgerald. I had a printed paper in my hand, which I had picked up somewhere, purporting to be directions or orders signed by Counsellor Saurin to the Lawyers' Corps. These required them, in case of riot or alarm, to repair to Smithfield, and such as had not ball-cartridge were to get them at his house, and such as were going out of town and did not think their arms safe, were to deposite them with him; and there was a little paper inside, which mentioned that their orders were to be kept secret. Lord Edward Fitzgerald, upon reading this paper, seemed greatly agitated: he said he thought government intended to arrest him, and he wished he could get to France, to hasten

the invasion, which he could do by his intimacy with Talleyrand Perigord, one of the French Ministers. He said he would not approve of a general invasion at first, but that the French had some very fine fast-sailing frigates, and that he would put on board them as many English and Irish officers as he could procure to come over from France, and as many men as were capable of drilling, and stores and ammunition of different kinds, and run them into some port in this country; he said he thought Wexford might do: that it would be unsuspected, and if they succeeded they could establish a rallying point, until other help should come.

In making his terms with the government, it was one of the conditions insisted upon by Reynolds, that the channel through which the information came should remain for some time a secret;—a stipulation in which his employers were no less interested than himself, as, by wearing still the mask of a friend, he could retain still the confidence of those he was betraying, and whatever victims his first aim had missed might, from the same ambush, be made sure of afterward. In pursuance of this policy, we find him, as he himself admits, paying a friendly visit to Mrs. Bond, two or three days after he had marked her husband for death; and even to Lord Edward, whose place of concealment at this moment was kept secret as we have seen, from his own family, this man, under the trust reposed in him, found ready admittance; and, again abusing the frank confidence he had inspired, was enabled to return to his employers armed with fresh proofs, which, though unavailing, as it turned out, against the noble Edward himself, were reserved for the posthumous revenge of disinheriting his offspring. The following is Reynolds' own account of what passed on this occasion; and it would be a task worthy of a great painter, to consign to canvass his conception of what an interview between two such persons, under such circumstances, must have been; doing justice at once to

the ardour, the gallant bearing, the elevation above all guile and suspicion, that characterized one of the parties, and the cool purpose of deceit, yet consciousness of degradation, which, to any eye perhaps but his victim's, must have been visible through the plausibility of the other.

That Reynolds promptly gave information to his employers of the place and circumstances of this interview, there can hardly be any doubt; and that they should have let pass such an opportunity of seizing their noble prey, can only be accounted for either by his quick change of place, which baffled their pursuit, or more probably by that wish to afford him a chance of quitting the country, which it is well known *one* at least of the powerful members of the cabinet at this time entertained. The thought of abondoning, however, for a single moment, the post of peril assigned to him, had never once entered into Lord Edward's dauntless mind. The very calamity that had just befallen the cause but bound a spirit like his more ardently to its service. To repair the breaches made in the organization by these arrests,—no less than three members of the Leinster executive* having been seized at Bond's—was now the first great object of his Lordship and his friends; and, with such promptitude was this effected, that, on the very evening of the arrests, three other persons were found to fill the vacant places. So anxious, indeed, were they to have it supposed by the people that this discovery had but little deranged their plans, that we had shortly after, one of the delegates, in his report to an Ulster meeting, assuring them confidently, that the Leinster committee had recovered wholly from their shock, and that within four days after the arrests, the whole province had been again completely organized.

* Towards the close of the year 1797, instead of the affairs of the Union being, as before, under the control of one supreme directory, sitting in Dublin, there was an executive committee established for each of the four provinces.

In order to calm, too, the minds of their followers, and prevent either the panic of some, or the premature violence of others, from having any injurious consequences, they drew up handbills, in styles suited to their various readers, and had them distributed among the initiated. From one of these the following ably written paragraphs are extracted :—

"For us, the keen but momentary anxiety, occasioned by the situation of our invaluable friends, subsided, on learning all the circumstances of the case, into a calm tranquillity, a consoling conviction of mind, that they are as safe as innocence can make men now; and to these sentiments were quickly added a redoubled energy, a tenfold activity of exertion which has already produced the happiest effects. The organization of the capital is perfect; no vacancies existing. Arrangements have been made, and are still making, to secure for our oppressed brethren, whose trials approach, the benefit of legal defence: and the sentinels whom you have appointed to watch over your interests stand firm at their posts, vigilant of events, and prompt to give notice and advice, which, on every other occasion at all requiring it, you may rely on receiving.

"This recital, Irishmen, is meant to guard those of you who are remote from the scene of the late events against the consequences of misrepresentation and mistake. The most unfounded rumours have been set afloat, fabricated for the double purpose of delusion and intimidation. Your enemies talk of treachery, in the vain and fallacious hope of creating it; but you, who scorn equally to be their dupes or their slaves, will meet their forgeries with dignified contempt, incapable of being either goaded into untimely violence, or sunk into pusillanimous despondency. Be firm, Irishmen, but be cool and cautious; be patient yet a while; trust to no unauthorized communications; and, above all, we warn you, again and again we warn you, against doing the work of your tyrants, by premature, by partial, or divided exertion. If Ireland shall be forced to throw away the scabbard, let it be at her own time, not at theirs.

"Dublin, March 17th (St. Patrick's Day,) 1798."

While putting in train all these measures for the retrieval of their affairs, another essential object with them was to procure, somewhere near Dublin, a place of concealment for their noble leader, till circumstances should require his presence in the capital. With this view Mr. Lawless,—the gentlemen mentioned in Reynolds' evidence,—applied to a friend of his, a widow lady, who occupied a retired house on the banks of the canal, in the immediate neighborhood of Dublin; and who, besides being known not to entertain sentiments unfriendly to the popular cause, was a person of that strong character of mind and generosity of spirit which alone can qualify women to be heroines in such exigencies. To her sympathy Mr. Lawless felt assured his appeal in behalf of his friend would not be in vain. Though knowing nothing more of Lord Edward than what fame brought to every ear, she consented, perilous as was such hospitality, to afford him the shelter of her roof; and it was to this lady's house that, on the night of the Thursday after the arrests at Bond's, he was conveyed, in disguise, by Mr. Lawless,—having contrived to see Lady Edward and his children before he went.

Her Ladyship had, immediately on the disappearance of Lord Edward, removed from the Duke of Leinster's to a house in Denzel-street, taking with her an attached female servant, and her husband's favorite Tony. The two latter believed,—as did most people,—that their master had fled to France, and it was therefore with no small surprise that the maid-servant (as she herself told the person from whom I heard the anecdote) saw, on going into her lady's room late in the evening, his Lordship and Lady Edward sitting togeth-

er by the light of the fire. The youngest child had, at his desire, been brought down out of its bed for him to see it, and both he and Lady Edward were, as the maid thought, in tears.

The name he went by while at the house of the widow lady was Jameson, and an old and faithful maid-servant of the family was the only person allowed to wait upon him. He had not, however, been more than two days in the house, when one of those slight accidents which seem to defy all caution, made the secret known to the whole family. A pair of his boots having been left outside his door to be cleaned, the man-servant, to whom they had been given for that purpose, told his mistress afterward that he knew "who the gentleman upstairs was;—but that she need not fear, for he would die to save him." He then showed her Lord Edward's name written at full length, in one of the boots. Thinking it possible that, after such a discovery, her guest might deem it dangerous to remain, Mrs. * * mentioned the circumstance to him. But his fears were not easily awakened:—"What a noble fellow!" he exclaimed; "I should like to have some talk with him." In the hope that it might be an incitement to the man's fidelity, the lady told him his lordship's wish; but he answered, "No,—I will not look at him—for, if they should take me up, I can then, you know, swear that I never saw him."

Though Mr. Lawless had requested shelter but for a few days for his frend, he continued to remain in this unsupected retreat near a month; and as it was feared that, to one accustomed so much to exercise, confinement might prove injurious, he used to walk out, most nights along the banks of the canal, accompanied generally by a child, who became a great favorite of his, and whom it was his amusement sometimes to frighten by jumping into the boats that were half-sunk in the reservoir or basin of the canal. So light-hearted, indeed, and imprudent was he at times, that Mrs. * *, who, during his absence on these walks, was kept in a constant state of anxiety and suspense, used often to hear him, at a considerable distance, laughing with his young companion, and more than once went out to meet them, and try to impress upon him the necessity of more caution.

Another subject of merriment between him and his young play-fellow arose from a large bed of orange lilies which grew at the bottom of thegarden, and which they conspired together to root up, some day when Mrs. * * should be from home.

Among the kind and attaching qualities by which her noble guest was distinguished, none struck Mrs. * * more forcibly than the affectionate solicitude with which he never ceased to think of Lady Edward and his children; and, in order to tranquilize his anxieties on this head, she herself went more than once to Denzel-street,—taking every precaution, of course, against being watched or tracked,—to make inquiries about his family. She found Lady Edward, who always ran to embrace her as if they had been the oldest friends, full of gratitude for the attentions bestowed upon her husband; and she also, in the course of these visits, saw the faithful Tony, who lamented to her that "his unfortunate face prevented him from going to see his dear master."

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